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BLOOD SUCKER

legend of zipangu

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PARENTAL ADVISORY
EXPLICIT CONTENT

ART BY: AKI SHIMIZU STORY BY: SAKI OKUSE

ART BY THE WRITER & ARTIST OF *SUIKODEN III* AND *QWAN*.

TOKYOPOP®

BLOOD SUCKER™

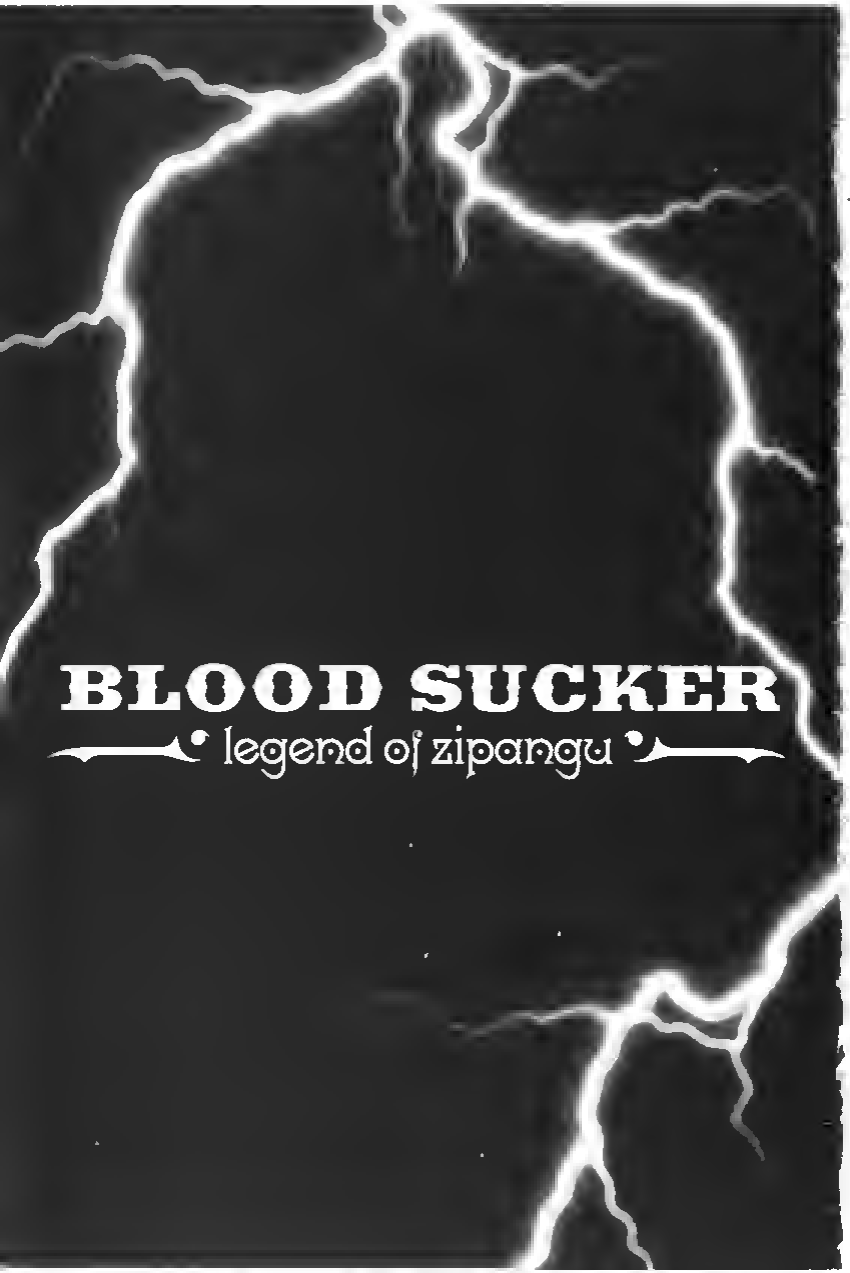
legend of zipangu

Vol. 2

Art by Aki Shimizu
Story by Saki Okuse

TOKYOPOP®

HAMBURG // LONDON // LOS ANGELES // TOKYO



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MIGIRI
A VAMPIRE, REAWAKENED AFTER A 200 YEAR SLUMBER. FOLLOWING HIS RESURRECTION, HE CREATES THE CULT CHURCH OF MAGORAKA AND BECOMES ITS GOD, THE "YATO NO KAMI." IS ABLE TO REGENERATE HIS BODY.
MAKIRI
WITH HIS HIDDEN EYES AND FIERCE CLAWS, HE LEADS AN ATTACK SQUAD AGAINST THE ANTI-MAGORAKA FORCES. DOES HE KNOW YUSUKE?!
SAKUMA
DEPUTY CHIEF OF THE POLICE DEPARTMENT'S CHURCH OF MAGORAKA COUNTERMEASURES DIVISION TASK SQUAD.
KUME
MEMBER OF THE CHURCH OF MAGORAKA COUNTER-MEASURES TASK SQUAD. RATHER ALOOF LIKES VIDEOGAMES.
YUKI
HEAD CHIEF OF THE POLICE DEPARTMENT'S CHURCH OF MAGORAKA COUNTERMEASURES DIVISION TASK SQUAD.
HIKAGE
A YOUNG MAN WHO APPEARED IN YUSUKE'S DREAMS AND LEFT HIM WITH A STRANGE MESSAGE.
HIDEKO MAEZONO
A MEMBER OF YUKI'S ANTI-MAGORAKA TASK SQUAD. SHE HAS VAMPIRE BITE MARKS ON HER NECK, AND CALLS HERSELF A "SERVANT OF THE YATO NO KAMI." SKILLED WITH A BLADE.
KURAHA
MIGIRI'S FOLLOWER WHO HELPED IN HIS RESURRECTION CEREMONY. HE IS SKILLED IN THE ART OF SHINOBI AND POSSESSES POWERS OF REGENERATION.

THE STORY THUS FAR

IN THE STOREHOUSE OF AN ABANDONED TEMPLE, A WESTERN COFFIN LOOMS OUT OF THE DARKNESS... AND THE FIGURE OF A SWORD-WIELDING WARRIOR EMERGES FROM INSIDE. THIS MAN IS NONE OTHER THAN MIGIRI, A VAMPIRE AWAKENING 200 YEARS AFTER A DUEL TO THE DEATH WITH THE SAMURAI NAONOSUKE IN THE EDO PERIOD! WITHIN THE ARMS OF MIGIRI'S OVERJOYED FOLLOWER, KURAHA, IS A GIRL NAMED KIKURI. SHE WAS TO BE USED IN THEIR DARK RESURRECTION RITUAL... AND YUSUKE, A YOUNG MAN WHO HAS TRACKED DOWN KIKURI ONLY TO COME FACE TO FACE WITH MIGIRI, IS THE SPITTING IMAGE OF NAONOSUKE. THE TWO SQUARE OFF BUT YUSUKE'S ATTACKS ARE USELESS COMPARED TO MIGIRI'S SELF-HEALING POWERS. WITH HIS RIGHT HAND SEVERED AND THE SIGHT OF KIKURI'S ECSTATIC EXPRESSION AS MIGIRI SUCKS HER BLOOD OUT BURNED INTO HIS BRAIN, YUSUKE FALLS UNCONSCIOUS.

TWO YEARS LATER... A POLICE DETECTIVE NAMED HIDEKO MAEZONO COMES TO THE HOSPITAL TO ESCORT YUSUKE FROM ITS WALLS. THEIR DESTINATION IS THE POLICE DEPARTMENT'S CHURCH OF MAGORAKA COUNTERMEASURES DIVISION TASK SQUAD HEADQUARTERS, LOCATED IN A NONDESCRIPT HIGHRISE CITY APARTMENT. IN THE TWO YEARS SINCE MIGIRI'S RETURN, THE NUMBER OF VAMPIRES IN TOKYO HAS RISEN, BASED AROUND MIGIRI'S CHURCH OF MAGORAKA CULT, IN WHICH HE IS CALLED THE "YATO NO KAMI." JUST AS YUSUKE ARRIVES AT THE APARTMENT, A GROUP OF VAMPIRES INCLUDING KURAHA AND MAKIRI INFILTRATE THE BUILDING AND ATTACK THE POLICE!! WHAT IS THEIR GOAL?! WILL YUSUKE AND THE OTHERS SURVIVE THE NIGHT...?!

YUSUKE HIMUKAI
A YOUNG MAN WHO FACED OFF AGAINST MIGIRI TO TAKE KIKURI BACK. THE RESULTING FIGHT LEFT HIM IN A STATE OF SHOCK AND WITHOUT HIS RIGHT HAND. NOW HE WAS FORCED TO WIELD A GUN WITH HIS LEFT HAND.
KIKURI FUJIHARA
THE YOUNG WOMAN TAKEN FOR MIGIRI'S BRIDE TO HAVE HER BLOOD SUCKED IN HIS RESURRECTION CEREMONY.

Chapter 1 – Soiled Fangs 6

BLOOD SUCKER

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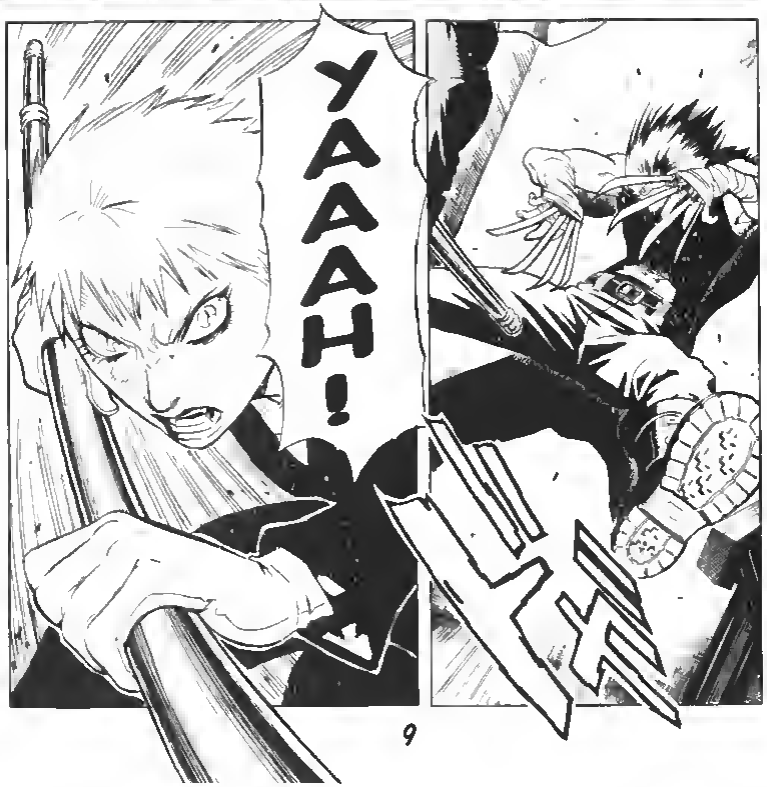
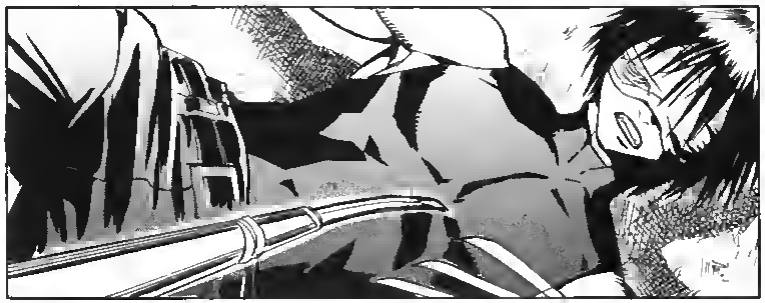
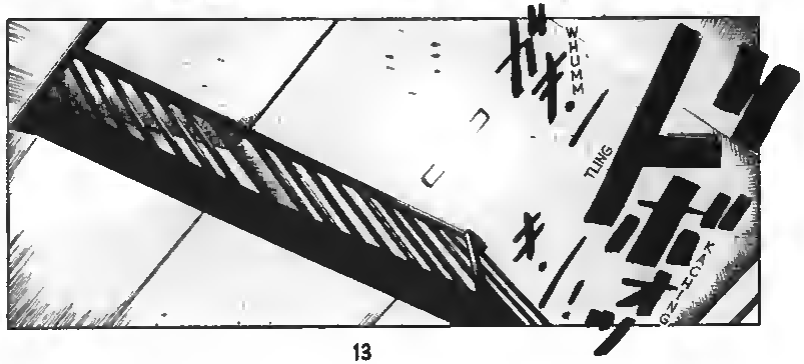

YAAAH!

SNATCH
!
.....!!

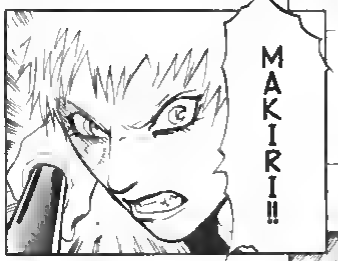
YAH!
!!




WHUMM
TUNG
KOTONG

GEHAGK!

DO


MAKIRI!!

BECAUSE WE HAVE BUSINESS HERE.
WHY? WHY DID YOU RISK THIS MUCH TO ATTACK NOW, WITH THE SUNRISE SO CLOSE AT HAND?

YUSUKE!!
WITH YUSUKE?! WHAT COULD YOU POSSIBLY WANT WITH HIM *NOW*?!
YOU ASK TOO MANY QUESTIONS, HIDEKO. I'M NOT THE ONLY ONE. KURAHA IS HERE, TOO.

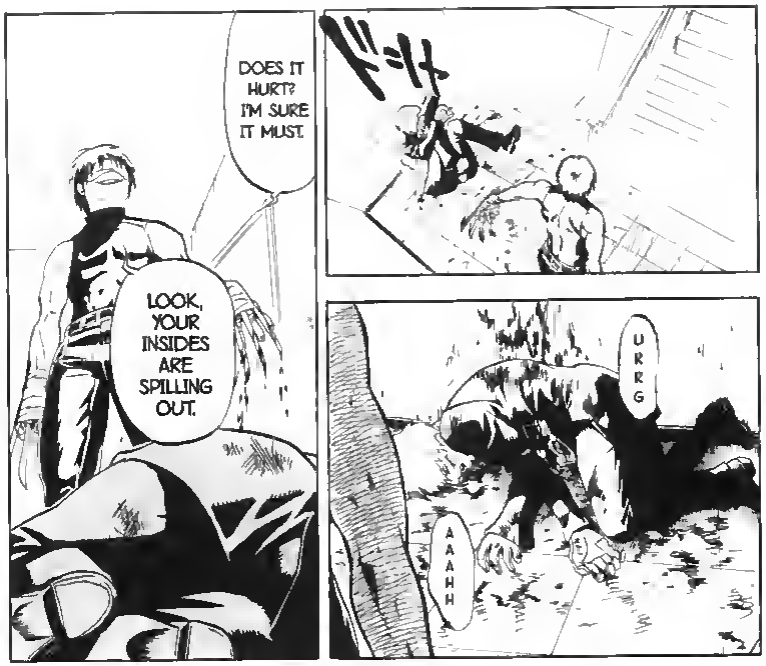
UNG...
HYA
HYA
HYA
!!

!!
HHSH

H-
HYAAA!!

!!

ISN'T IT TOUGH, ALWAYS BEING SO HALF-ASSED?
ISN'T IT CONSTANTLY PUTTING YOUR FRIENDS AND PARTNERS IN DANGER?
WHAT DO YOU SAY?
COME BE MY SERVANT, HIDEKO. YOU'RE WELCOME ANY TIME.
G-GO FUCK YOURSELF. KILL ME.
KILL ME !!
VERY WELL.


DOES IT HURT? I'M SURE IT MUST.
LOOK, YOUR INSIDES ARE SPILLING OUT.
URRG
AAAHH

MUST BE HARD FOR A HALF-ASS LIKE YOU TO BEAR.
YOU MIGHT DIE, IF YOU CAN'T REGENERATE YOURSELF.

BANG

……
TMP

!!!

YUSUKE... YUSUKE'S ON THE ROOF.
NGGI AAAH!
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT, AGENT MAEZONO?!

……

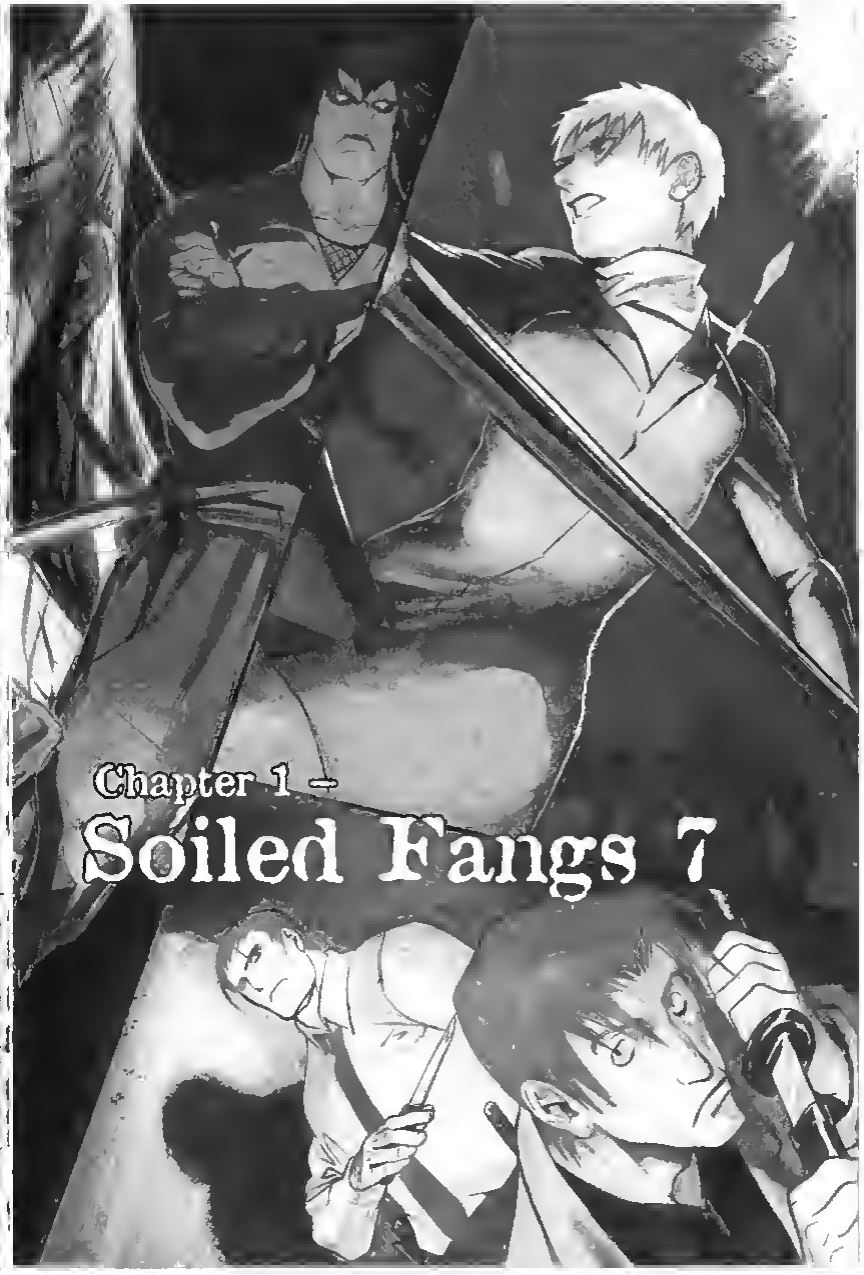
ドガッ
ドゴッ

ドガ
うぉあ
CRUNCH!
ガシッ

HUP
MMAAAH

Chapter 1 –
Soiled Fangs 7
JUST *DIE* ALREADY!!

MMMMMINCEMEAT!!
MMMINCEMEAT!!
IS HE GETTING FASTER?!



Chapter 1 –

Soiled Fangs 7

NOW IT'S *MY* TURN TO MINCE *YOU.*
HEE HEE
YOU WERE MINCING *ME.*

!!
AACK!!

RIGHT HERE, YUSUKE. YOU AIM FOR THE EYES.
H-HIKAGE...

ごっ
ガッ
HA HA HA!
...RIGHT NOW...?
AM I... GOING TO DIE, RIGHT HERE...

EWAHH
うぎゃあああああ
STRANGHEW

ゴシャアッ
ゴ
SQUEEZE

YAAAAA!!
AAAHH!
AAUGH!

HOW DO I KILL HIM, NOW?
HUFF
HUFF

THUMP
WHOOOOSH

GACK!
HNG.
COUGH!
GASP

FALL
OFF
AND
DIE!!
ゴギッ
AAAUGUGHUHH!

IT'S WONDERFUL. WHAT A *GLORIOUS* THING!
I CAN SEE. I CAN *SEE* IT!
ALL OF THE CELLS IN MY BODY CAN FEEL THE WIND, THE LIGHT, THE WAVES OF THE *UNIVERSE!*
AND THEY PERFECTLY EMBODY THE BEING THAT IS *ME!*

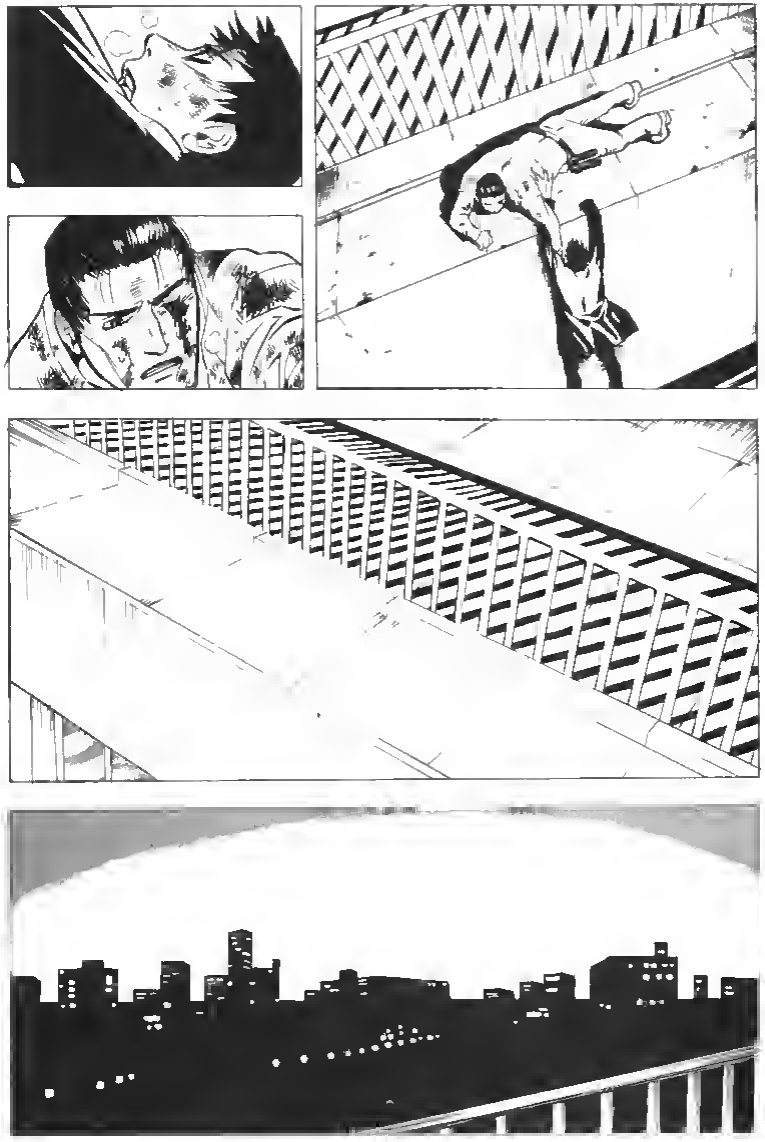
UH...
NNG...
ゴォォ
オオオ
ゴゴゴ

!!
THIS POWER, THIS EXISTENCE IS THE VERY ESSENCE OF "ART" ITSELF!!
ゴオオオオオオオオ
……

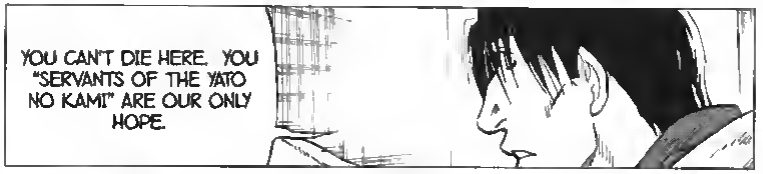
WHIRL

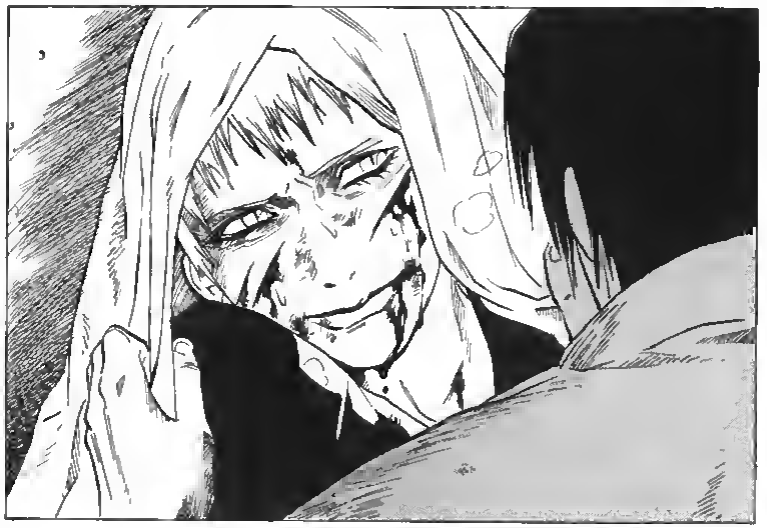
SLASH
FALL

SORRY I'M LATE, SAKUMA. BUT I PROMISED.
.....



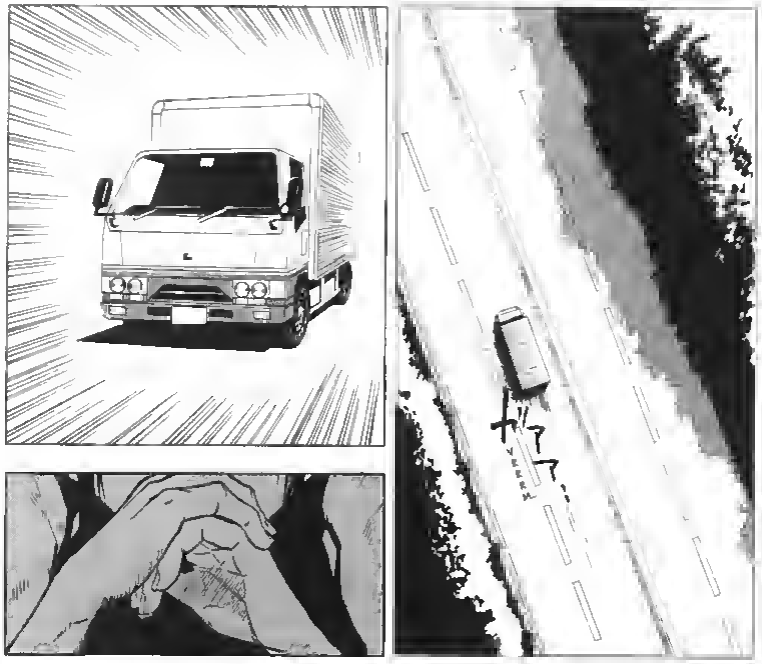
KUME... CAN YOU WRAP MY SCARF AROUND MY HEAD FOR ME?


YOU CAN'T DIE HERE. YOU "SERVANTS OF THE YATO NO KAMI" ARE OUR ONLY HOPE.



DID YOU KILL HIM?

.....

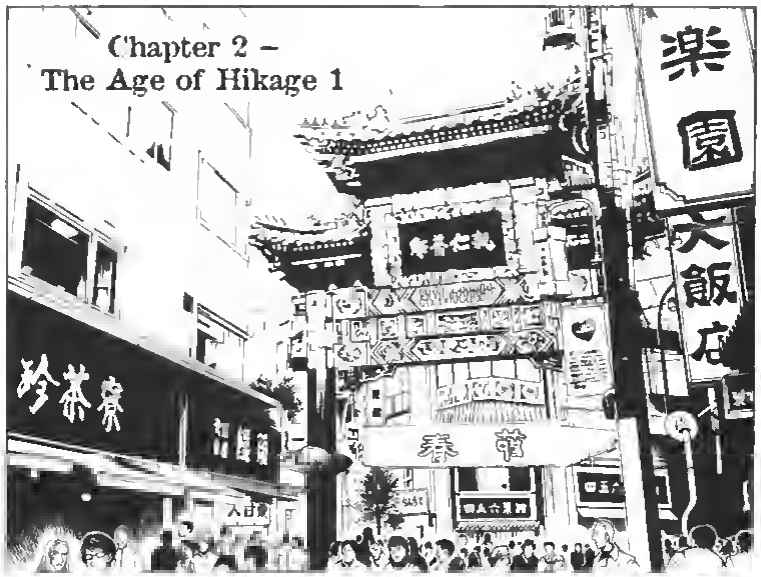

ガァァ...
SCREECH

I THOUGHT I TOLD YOU, KURAHA.
I'M NOT GOING TO STAND FOR ANYONE ELSE KILLING HIM, NOT EVEN YOU—
THE LAWS OF THE EARTH FORCE US TO LIVE IN ETERNAL NIGHT. WE CANNOT AFFECT THE HEAVENS.
IT IS NOT WE WHO WILL BURY YUSUKE HIMUKAI.
.....

HE'S MINE!!
カアアア…

THUP
THUP
THUP
PCHI

Chapter 2 –
The Age of Hikage 1



ONE WEEK UNTIL THE RESURRECTION OF THE YATO NO KAMI.

Chapter 2

The Age of Hikage 1

MONDAY

ARE WE GONNA DIE?
I GOT A BAD FEELING ABOUT THIS SHIT, MAN. I DON'T LIKE IT ONE BIT
MAYBE. THAT'S ALL I'M SAYING.

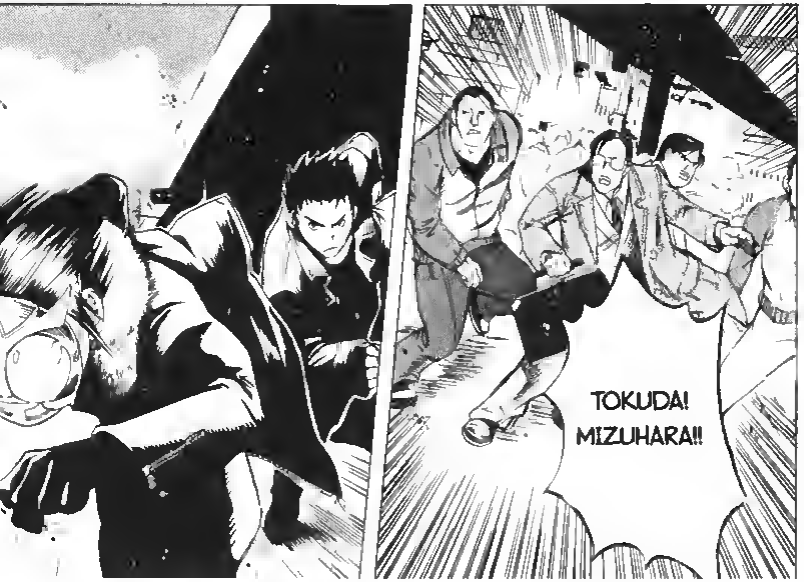
MIGHT AS WELL STICK WITH YOU, HIKAGE. I DON'T HAVE ANYWHERE ELSE TO GO.
WHEN WE'RE DONE WITH THIS JOB, LET'S GO TO TAIWAN FOR A WHILE.
OF COURSE, YOU HAVE NOWHERE ELSE TO RETURN TO. ORPHANAGES ONLY TAKE KIDS.

バタン
THE "DEER" IS WEARING A WHITE MUFFLER.
HE'S GOT THREE "DOGS."

I'M GONNA GUN THE CAR TO PICK YOU UP 45 SECONDS AFTER THE LIGHT CHANGES.
CAN WE HANDLE THE "DOGS," HIIRAGI?
YEAH. THEY'RE EX-COPS, YOU CAN IGNORE THEM.
HAH. SOMEHOW I DOUBT THEY'LL BE CONSIDERATE ENOUGH TO IGNORE US IN RETURN.
USE YOUR PISTOL.
HONK
HONK

FLIK

!!


TOKUDA!
MIZUHARA!!

I'LL BE FINE.
PUT ON YOUR MASK, YUSUKE. THREE DOGS IN 45 SECONDS WILL BE TOUGH

.....

BRRRM..
BWWW
BWWW

AAAGH?!
AAAAAAHH!!

EEEEK!
……

RAAAH!!

?!

SQUEEZE
.....
HIKAGE...

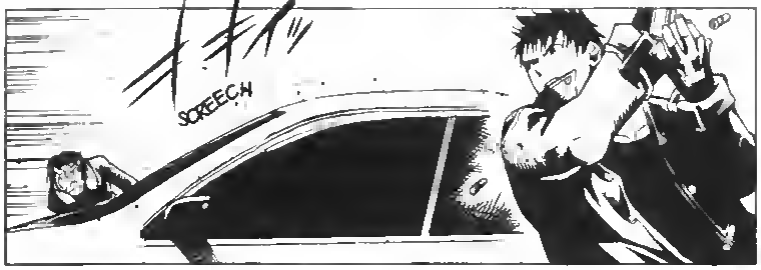
!!
I'LL BEAT YOUR FREAKIN' HEAD TO A PULP!!

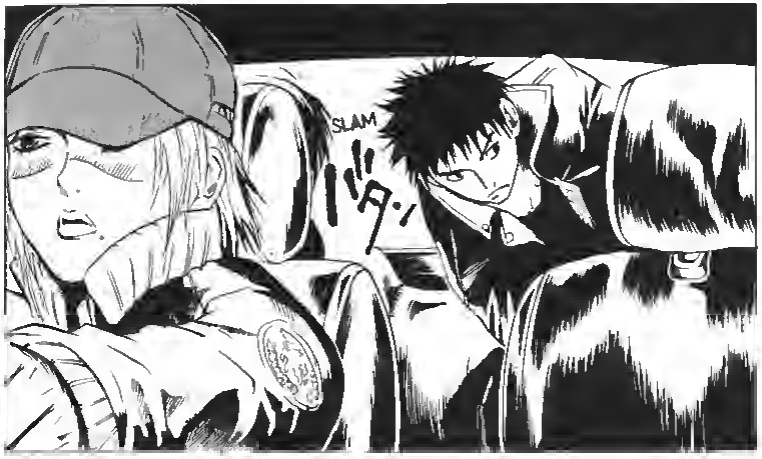
BANG
BANG
!!

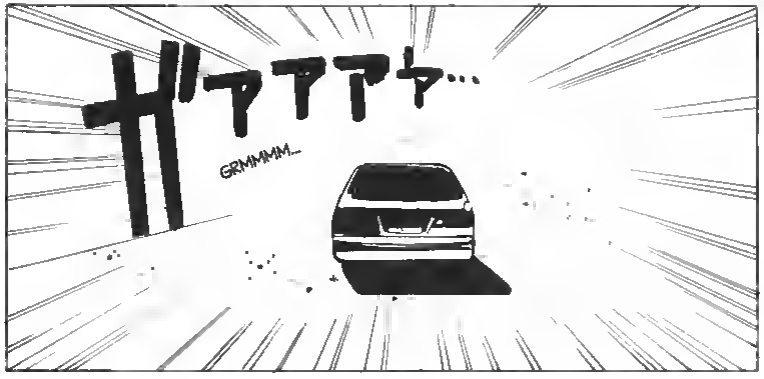
キィィあああっ
AAAAAAAGH!!

ズッ

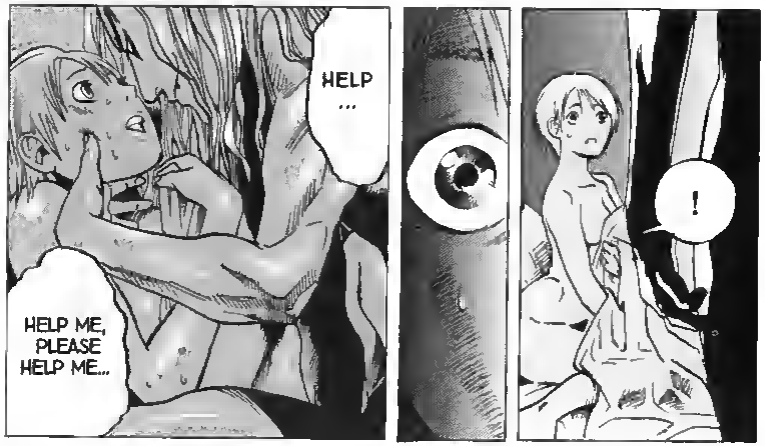
キィィあああっ

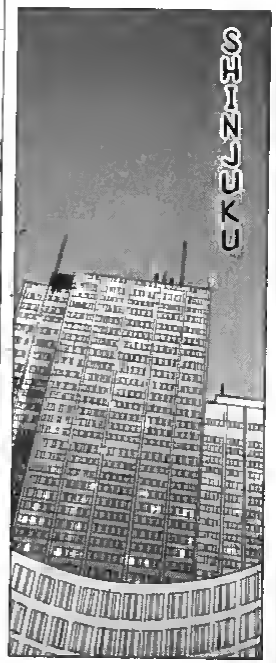

SCREECH


SLAM

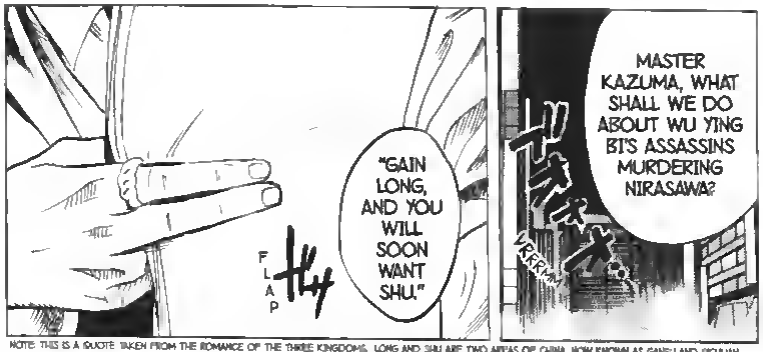

GRMMMM...

BANG

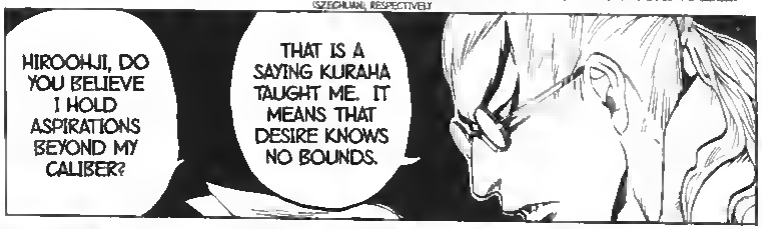

HELP ...
HELP ME, PLEASE HELP ME...
!

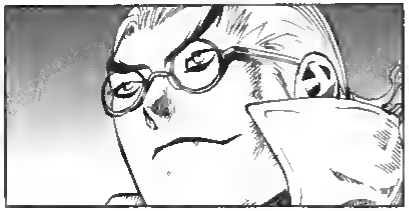

SEIZURE

HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF


"GAIN LONG, AND YOU WILL SOON WANT SHU."
FLAP
MASTER KAZUMA, WHAT SHALL WE DO ABOUT WU YING BI'S ASSASSINS MURDERING NIRASAWA?
VRRRM

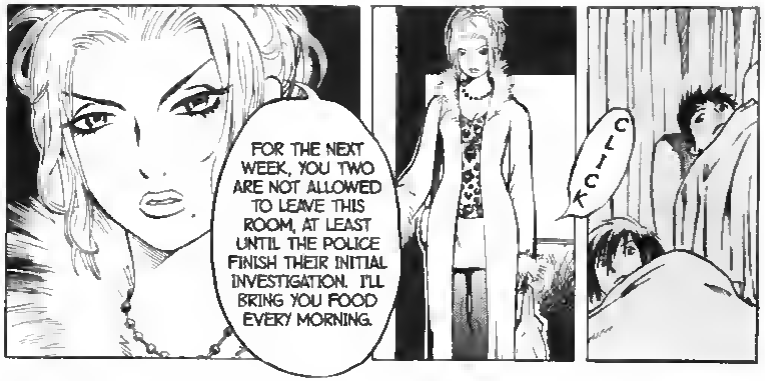
NOTE: THIS IS A QUOTE TAKEN FROM THE ROMANCE OF THE THREE KINGDOMS. LONG AND SHU ARE TWO AREAS OF CHINA, NOW KNOWN AS GANSU AND SICHUAN (SZECHUAN), RESPECTIVELY.


HIROOHJI, DO YOU BELIEVE I HOLD ASPIRATIONS BEYOND MY CALIBER?
THAT IS A SAYING KURAHA TAUGHT ME. IT MEANS THAT DESIRE KNOWS NO BOUNDS.



TUESDAY

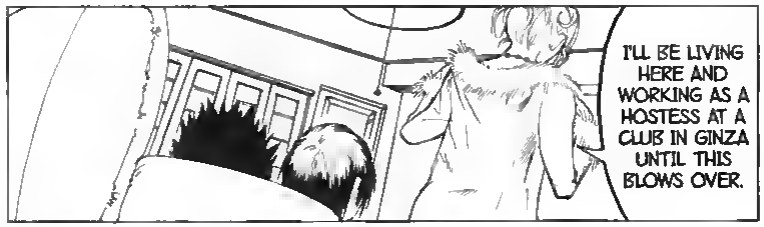
TWEET TWEET...

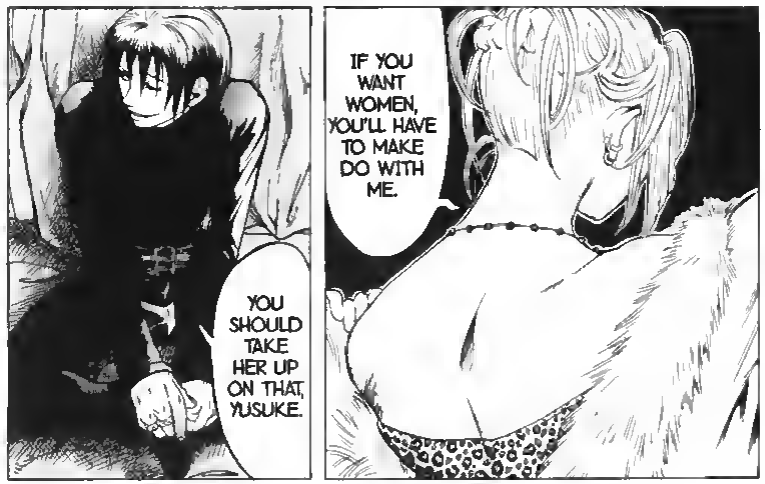

FOR THE NEXT WEEK, YOU TWO ARE NOT ALLOWED TO LEAVE THIS ROOM, AT LEAST UNTIL THE POLICE FINISH THEIR INITIAL INVESTIGATION. I'LL BRING YOU FOOD EVERY MORNING.
CLICK

SINCE WHEN WERE YOU GUYS THIS AFRAID OF THE POLICE? YOU SEEM AWFULLY CAUTIOUS THIS TIME.

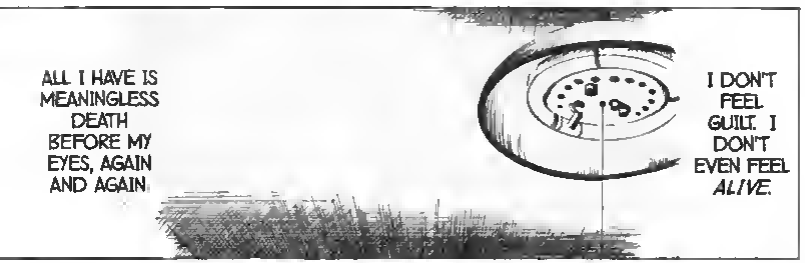
WE WANNA HIGHTAIL IT TO THE AIRPORT AND ENJOY SOME QUALITY VACATION TIME ASAP

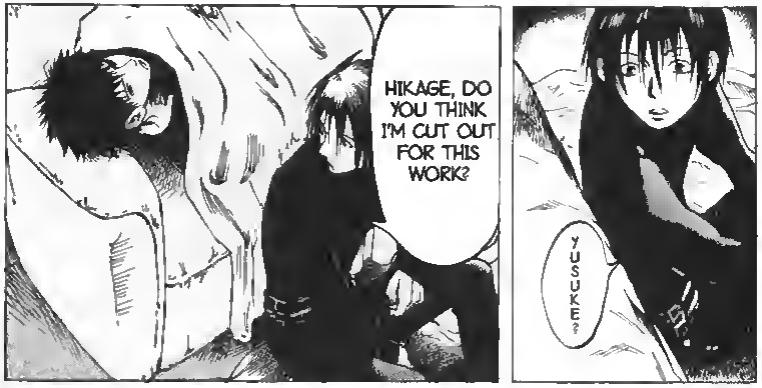
...
THEY SAY SOMETHING WAS FUNNY WITH THE CONTRACT. THERE ARE MORE FRIGHTENING PEOPLE OUT THERE THAN THE POLICE.
NOT THAT I KNOW WHO THAT WOULD BE.


I'LL BE LIVING HERE AND WORKING AS A HOSTESS AT A CLUB IN GINZA UNTIL THIS BLOWS OVER.

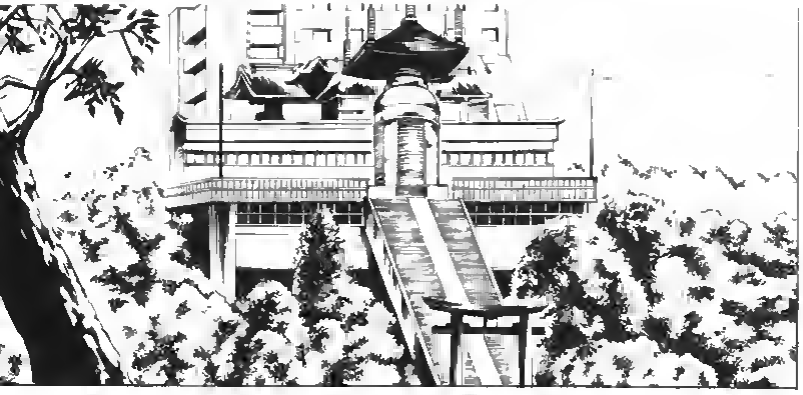

IF YOU WANT WOMEN, YOU'LL HAVE TO MAKE DO WITH ME.
YOU SHOULD TAKE HER UP ON THAT, YUSUKE.

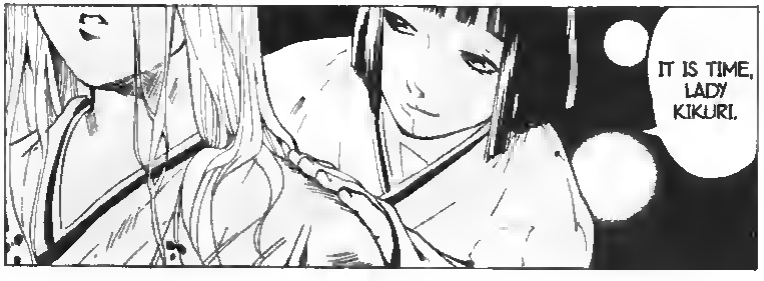
I DON'T FEEL A THING.
HOW MANY DOES THIS MAKE NOW? HOW MANY PEOPLE HAVE I KILLED?


ALL I HAVE IS MEANINGLESS DEATH BEFORE MY EYES, AGAIN AND AGAIN.
I DON'T FEEL GUILT. I DON'T EVEN FEEL ALIVE.


HIKAGE, DO YOU THINK I'M CUT OUT FOR THIS WORK?
YUSUKE?

I DUNNO.



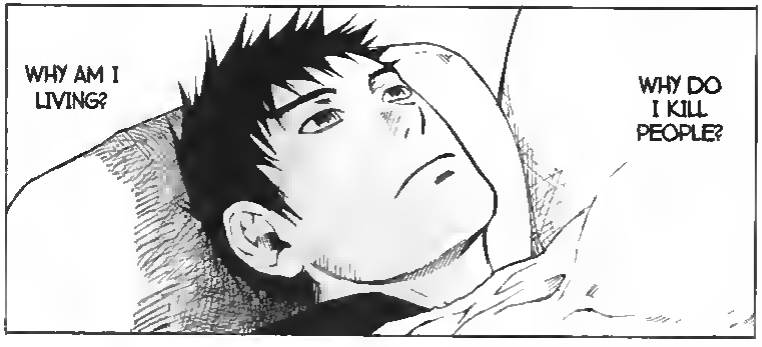

IT IS TIME, LADY KIKURI.

YOU BET IT DOES.

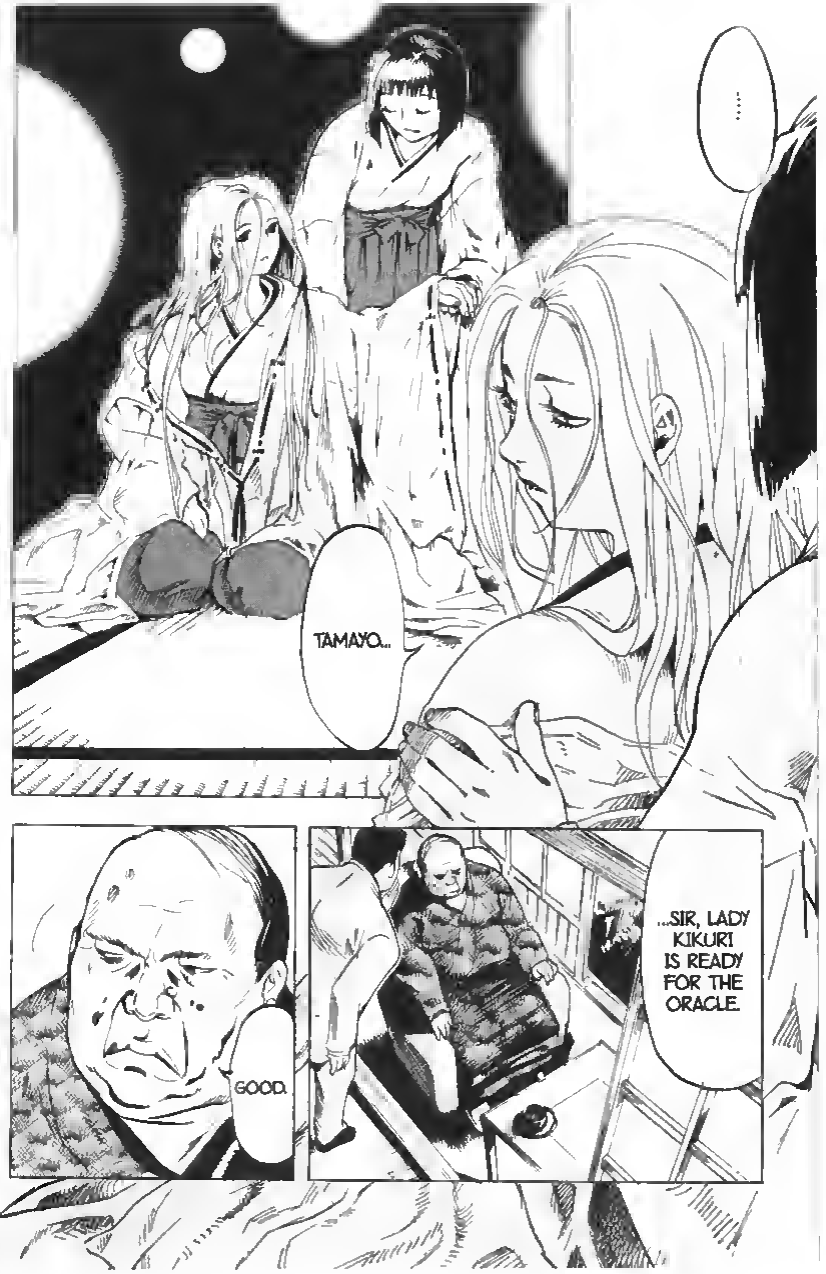
DOES IT EXCITE YOU TO KILL PEOPLE, HIKAGE?

HEH HEH HEH... WHAT ABOUT YOU, HIIRAGI?

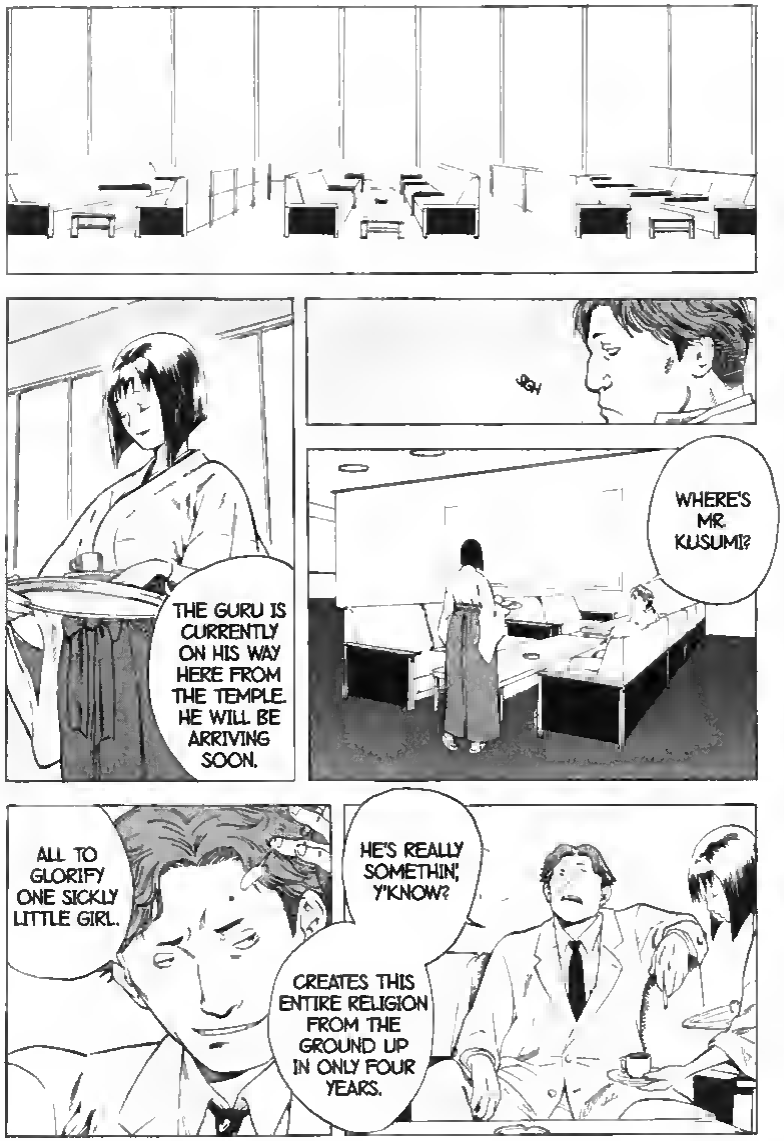
THERE'S YOUR ANSWER.

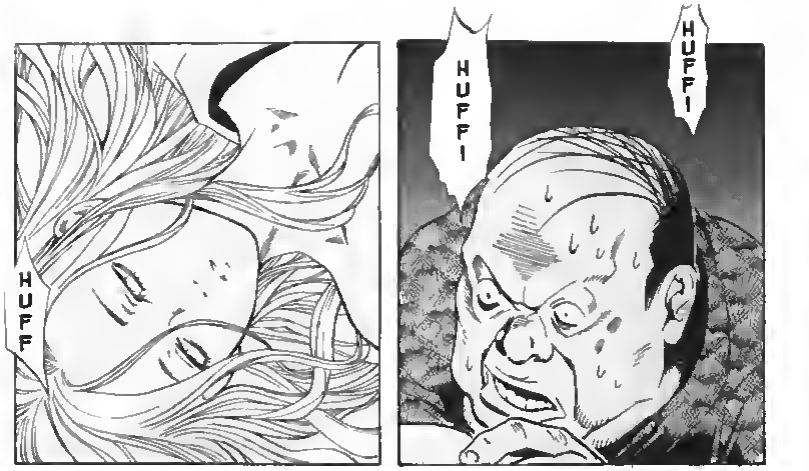

WHY AM I LIVING?
WHY DO I KILL PEOPLE?

Chapter 2 –
The Age of Hikage 2

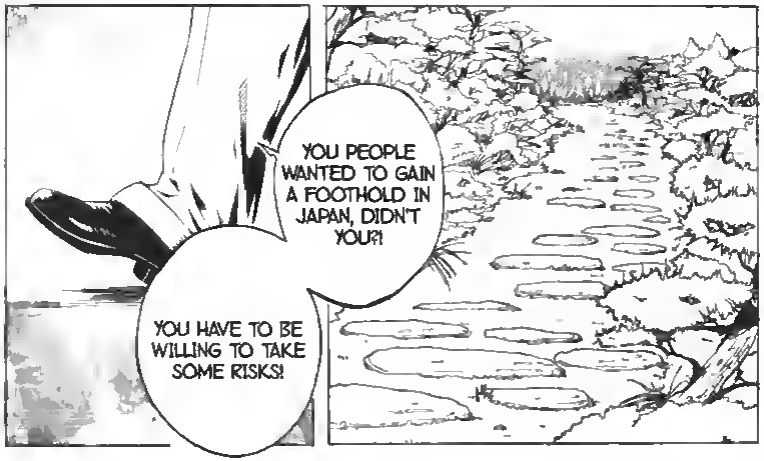


WHAT DO YOU *REALLY* WORSHIP IN YOUR INNER SANCTUM?
BUT THAT'S NOT ALL THE CHURCH OF MAGORAKA IS HIDING, IS IT?
...
MR. KATO, YOU SHOULD WATCH WHAT YOU SAY BEFORE SOMEONE DISPOSES OF YOU.
HMPH. I'LL DISPOSE OF *MYSELF* BEFORE THAT HAPPENS.
WHY DOES A DIET LEGISLATOR'S SECRETARY LIKE ME HAVE TO BABY-SIT SOME FORTUNE TELLING PRIESTESS?
THEN YOU WILL KNOW YOUR OWN FUTURE.
PERHAPS YOU SHOULD LAY WITH LADY KIKURI AS WELL.


SIGH
THE GURU IS CURRENTLY ON HIS WAY HERE FROM THE TEMPLE. HE WILL BE ARRIVING SOON.
WHERE'S MR. KUSUMI?
ALL TO GLORIFY ONE SICKLY LITTLE GIRL.
CREATES THIS ENTIRE RELIGION FROM THE GROUND UP IN ONLY FOUR YEARS.
HE'S REALLY SOMETHIN', Y'KNOW?


HUFF
HUFF!
HUFF!

HUFF
HUFF

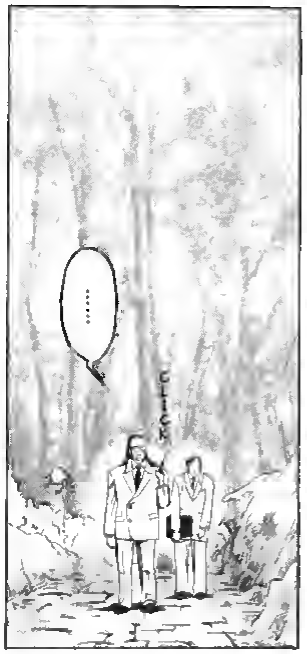

YOU PEOPLE WANTED TO GAIN A FOOTHOLD IN JAPAN, DIDN'T YOU?!
YOU HAVE TO BE WILLING TO TAKE SOME RISKS!

BUT THEY ALL GO SOFT WHEN THEY GET IN BED WITH HER, DON'T THEY?
I'D FEEL LIKE AN IDIOT, PAYING ALL THAT MONEY TO NOT DO THE DEED.

.....

THEY'RE ASKING FOR TWO THOUSAND EXTRA IN CONSOLATION.
WHAT DO YOU THINK, HAMAMURA?

I SUGGEST YOU PAY IT. YOU DON'T WANT TO MAKE ENEMIES OF THEM, SIR.


.....
CLICK

VERY WELL, YOU WILL GET YOUR MONEY.

DON'T FORGET, WE WILL KILL *ANYONE* WITHIN THREE HOURS OF A DEAL.

YOU HID THE FACT THAT NIRASAWA WAS A MEMBER OF "K" FROM US.
YOU HAVE EXPOSED OUR OPERATION TO GREAT DANGER.

WE KNOW ALL ABOUT "K"AZUMA.
RIDICULOUS THERE IS NO SUCH ORGANIZATION AS "K."

WHERE IS KIKURI?
SHE HAS FINISHED HER ORACLE IN YOMOTSU HIRASAKA'S* ROOM OF ETERNAL NIGHT, AND IS NOW BEING CLEANSED.
I HEAR NIRASAWA WAS KILLED.
YOU WANT TO HEAR THE STORY?
I CAN TELL YOU ALL ABOUT IT.

*NOTE: YOMOTSU HIRASAKA IS THE HILL THAT LEADS TO YOMOTSU (OR MORE COMMONLY YOMI) THE UNDERWORLD IN TRADITIONAL JAPANESE MYTHOLOGY. IN THIS CASE IT'S JUST THE NAME THEY HAVE ASSIGNED TO A PLACE IN THE MAGORAKA TEMPLE.

IT'S JUST MY DUTY TO LOOK AFTER YOUR WELL-BEING, YOU UNDERSTAND.
AH YES, OF COURSE. PARDON ME.

DAMN THEM ALL...
LIKE FLIES, FLOCKING TO HONEY.

JUST LEAVE THAT ALL UP TO MY BOSS.
HE'LL MAKE SURE THE LAW WON'T MOVE IN ON YOU FOR ANYTHING SHORT OF, SAY, CHILD ABUSE.

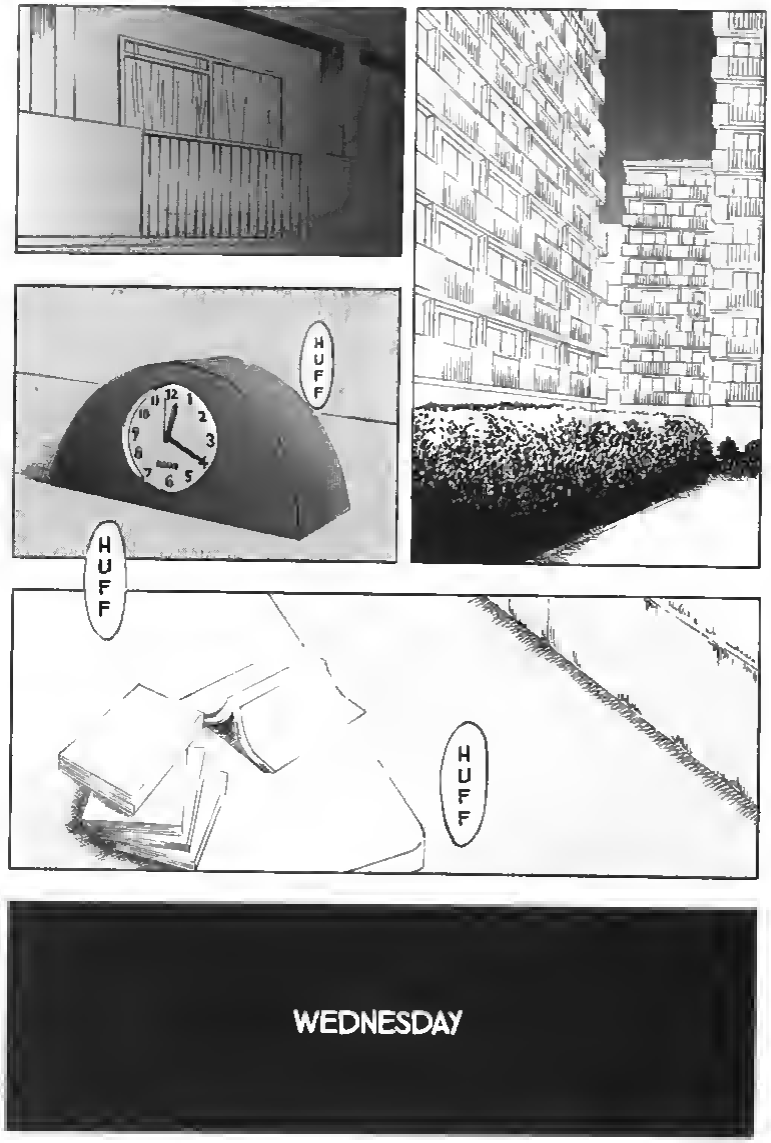
OH NO, DON'T MIND ME. I'M JUST MAKING SMALL TALK.

MORE IMPORTANTLY, WE'RE NOT GOING TO HAVE ANY TROUBLE WITH THE POLICE, ARE WE?

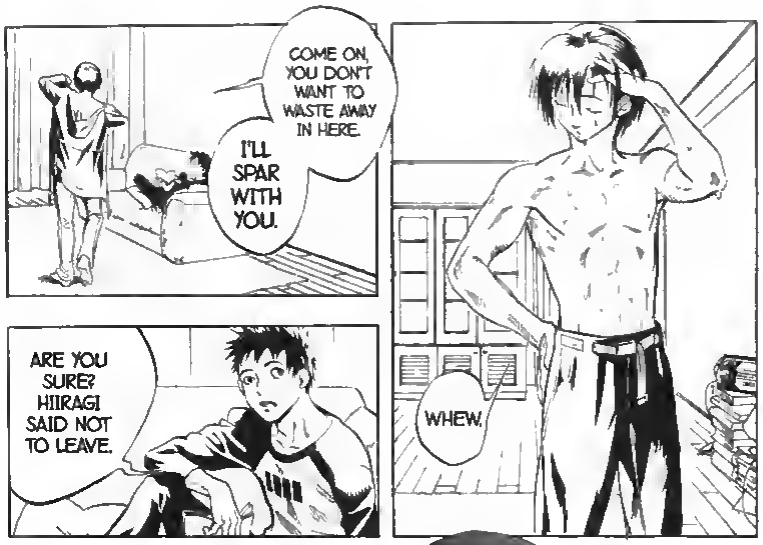
BUT JUST TO BE SURE: HOW OLD IS LADY KIKURI, ANYWAY?

KIKURI IS MY WIFE. THERE IS NO NEED FOR CONCERN.

HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF


HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
WEDNESDAY

UNG?!


COME ON, YOU DON'T WANT TO WASTE AWAY IN HERE.
I'LL SPAR WITH YOU.
ARE YOU SURE? HIIRAGI SAID NOT TO LEAVE.
WHEW.

WE'RE JUST GOING DOWN THE BLOCK TO GET A BIT OF EXERCISE. SHE WON'T CARE.

!!

ARGH!

YOUR CENTER OF GRAVITY IS TOO HIGH EVEN IF YOU'RE NOT USING YOUR LEGS MUCH, YOU SHOULD ALWAYS FOCUS ON THE LOWER HALF

WHATEVER YOU SAY!!

.....?!

USE THAT.
AND COME AT ME LIKE YOU MEAN TO KILL ME, YUSUKE!

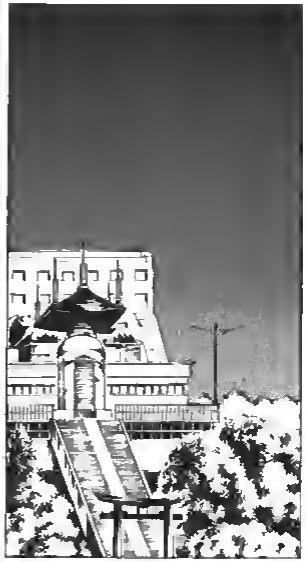
.....

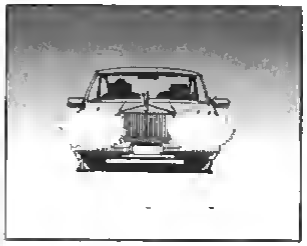
GEHOF!
HACK!
COUGH!

YOU ARE TOO KIND, SIR.

KUSUMI, THE BLOOD OF THE GIRL WHO CAME TO ME LAST NIGHT WAS DELECTABLE.

BLASTED FREAK...





CLICK

.....
AND HOW WAS NIRASAWA'S BLOOD, KUSUMI? NOW YOU CAN FOCUS ON RAISING FUNDS FOR THE CHURCH WITHOUT HAVING TO WORRY ABOUT HIM TAKING ANYTHING OFF THE TOP, RIGHT?
N- NOT YET, SIR...
HAVE YOU SEEN YOUR FUTURE IN PRINCESS KIKURI'S EMBRACE YET, KUSUMI?

HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN OUR AGREEMENT, IN YOUR *GREED*?
WAS THAT ALL YOUR FUTURE AMOUNTED TO?
A-ALL THAT I AM TODAY IS BECAUSE OF YOU, MASTER.

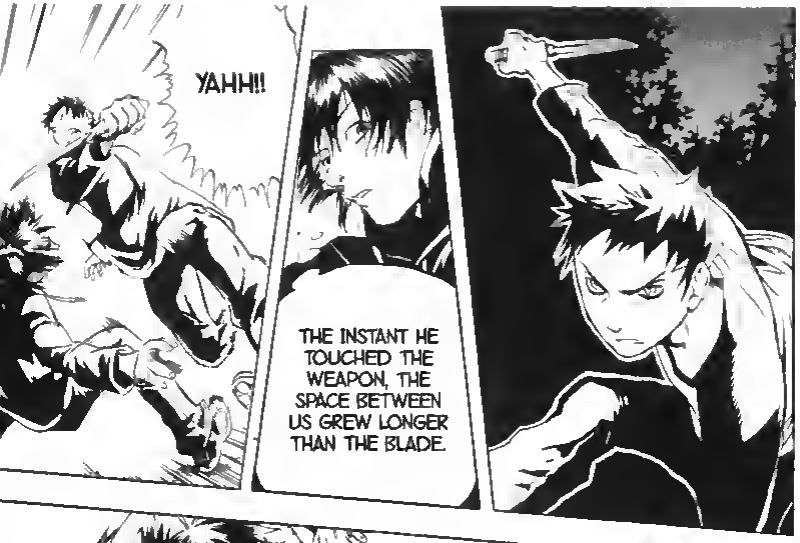
KUSUMI, THINK BACK ON THE EVENTS OF THE DAY FOUR YEARS AGO, WHEN KIKURI CLOSED HER HEART TO US ALL.

I HAVE DECIDED TO TAKE PRINCESS KIKURI FOR MYSELF. I WILL COME FOR HER TOMORROW NIGHT.
YOU CAN RELEGATE HER TASKS TO ONE OF YOUR OTHER GIRLS.

PLEASE, DON'T DO THIS! IF IT'S GIRLS YOU WANT, I WILL GIVE YOU A *HUNDRED!*
JUST LEAVE KIKURI OUT OF THIS!

EEEK!

N- NO, MASTER KAZUMA! ANYTHING BUT THAT!

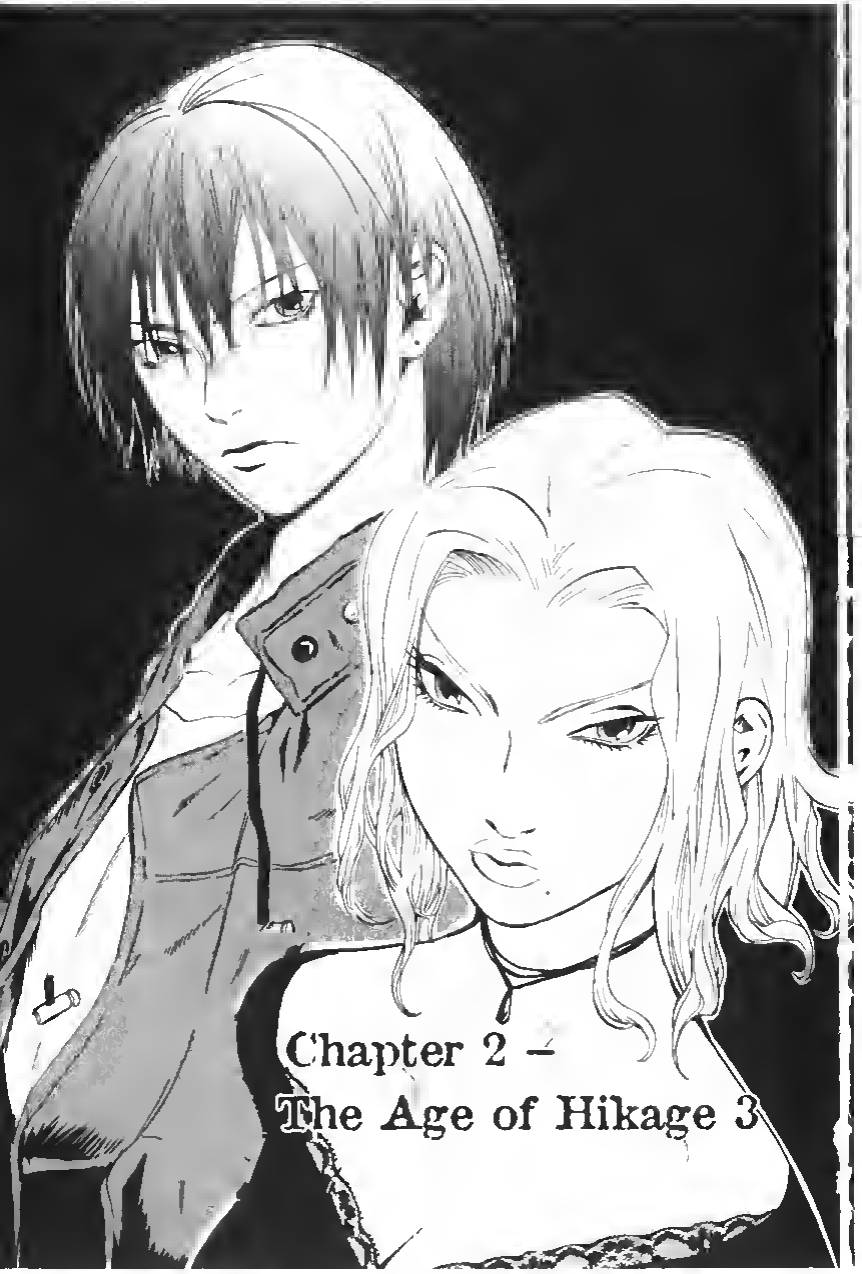

YAHH!!
THE INSTANT HE TOUCHED THE WEAPON, THE SPACE BETWEEN US GREW LONGER THAN THE BLADE.

!!

YAAAH!!
HNG...

(WE'RE JUST GETTING SOME EXERCISE.)
(I LEFT YOU WITH HIM PRECISELY SO THIS WOULDN'T HAPPEN. WHAT'S GOING ON?)
.....
.....
(HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN? THIS ISN'T OUR COUNTRY.)
(YES, IT IS OUR COUNTRY!)

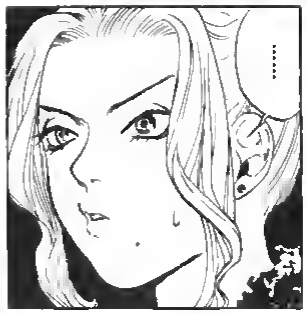
*NOTE: HIIRAGI AND HIKAGE ARE SPEAKING IN CHINESE HERE, WITH THE TRANSLATION IN PARENTHESES.


Chapter 2 –
The Age of Hikage 3

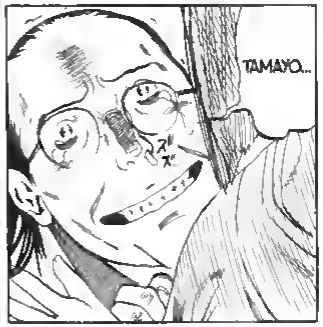
WHEN THE TIME COMES WE'LL JUST KILL THIS "K" GUY OURSELVES.

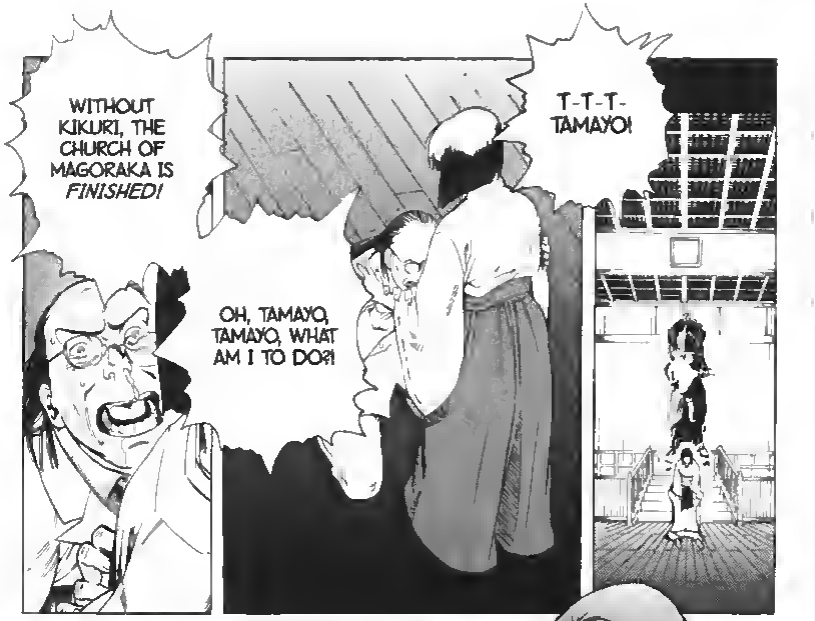
(ARE YOU THAT AFRAID OF "K"?)

(WHAT... WHERE DID YOU HEAR THAT-)
(I'M NOT A KID ANYMORE, SO STOP TREATING ME LIKE ONE, BIG SISTER!)


.....

THE TIME FOR ACTION HAS COME, GURU. YOU CANNOT HOPE TO MAINTAIN YOUR AUTHORITY BY LIVING IN FEAR OF THAT MONSTER.
LET US KILL KAZUMA.

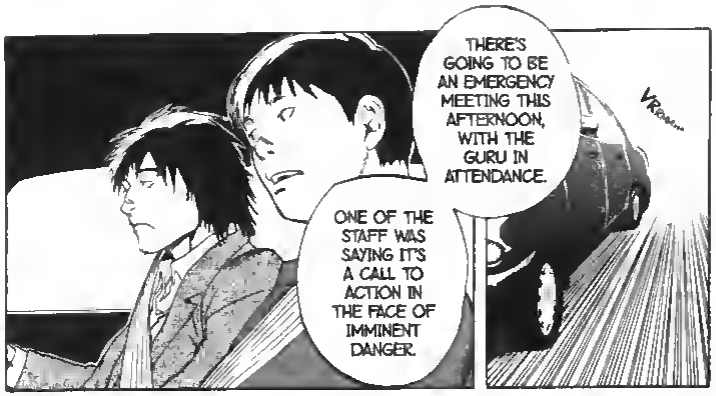

TAMAYO...


WITHOUT KIKURI, THE CHURCH OF MAGORAKA IS FINISHED!
OH, TAMAYO, TAMAYO, WHAT AM I TO DO?!
T-T-T-TAMAYO!

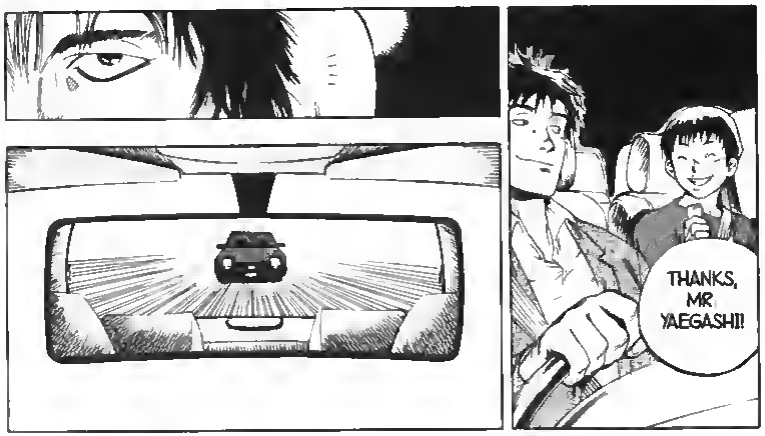
JUST LIKE THAT GREEDY MR. NIRASAWA.
THEN ALL YOU NEED DO IS KILL HIM.

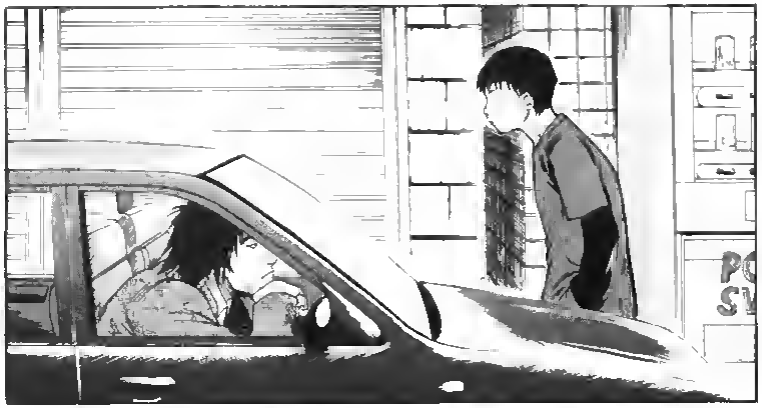
……
合2号店
安さ抜群
禁煙のタイワ

BURAIKAN
5F DAIGO
4F CHURCH OF MAGORAKA
3F BOOKSTORE
2F NEW
FROM THE ARROW OF YOUR FINGER
THE TIME FOR CLEANSING HAS COME!!


THERE'S GOING TO BE AN EMERGENCY MEETING THIS AFTERNOON, WITH THE GURU IN ATTENDANCE.
ONE OF THE STAFF WAS SAYING IT'S A CALL TO ACTION IN THE FACE OF IMMINENT DANGER.
VROOM...

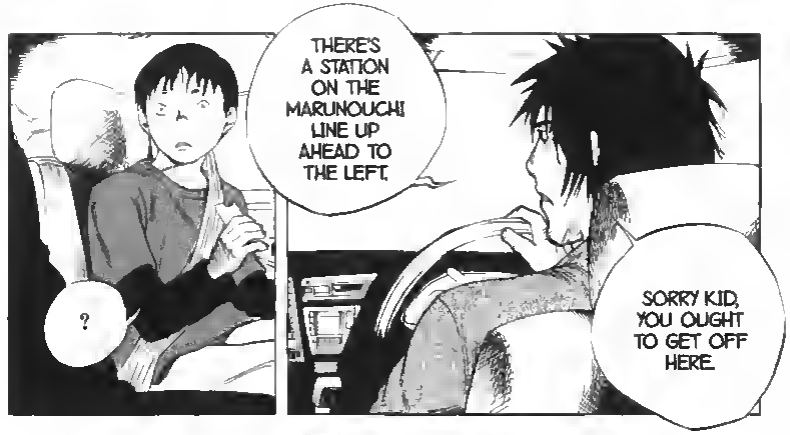
YOU LIKE MUSIC, DON'T YOU TAMURA?
BUY YOURSELF A CD.
THEY'LL PROBABLY ROUND ME UP TO HELP WITH THE BOOK SALES.
ARE YOU GONNA BE THERE?


THANKS, MR YAEGASHI!



PEER

WHAT, DOES HE THINK WE'RE PLAYING SPIES NOW?


?
THERE'S A STATION ON THE MARUNOUCHI LINE UP AHEAD TO THE LEFT.
SORRY KID, YOU OUGHT TO GET OFF HERE.

AGENT YAEGASHI,
FORGIVE ME IF I FIND LITTLE *LAUDABLE* ABOUT A PUBLIC SERVANT SETTING SNARES FOR A PEACEFUL, LAW-ABIDING NEW RELIGIOUS GROUP

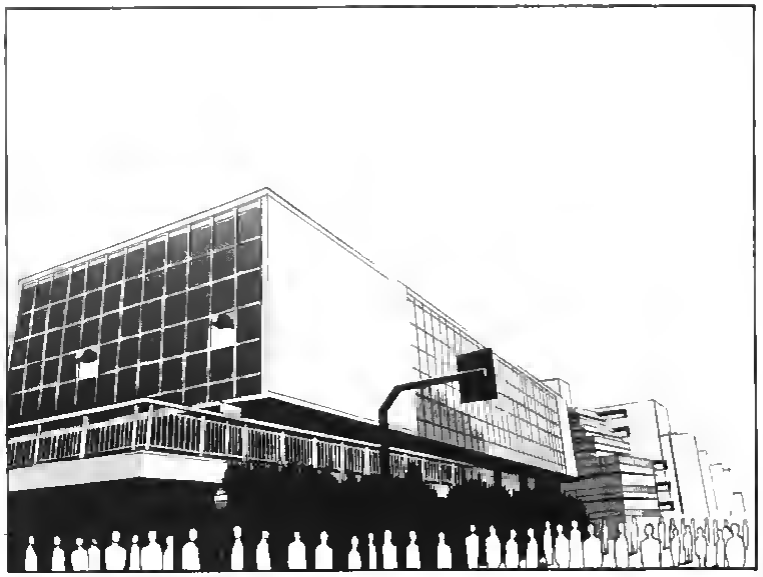
SUCK

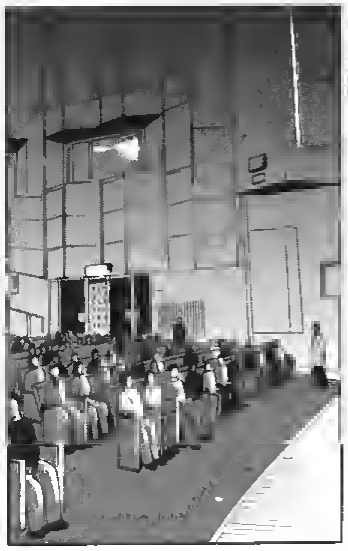
IT IS A WASTE OF T-TAXPAYER FUNDS, AND PEOPLE WOULD BE INCENSED IF THEY HEARD ABOUT IT.

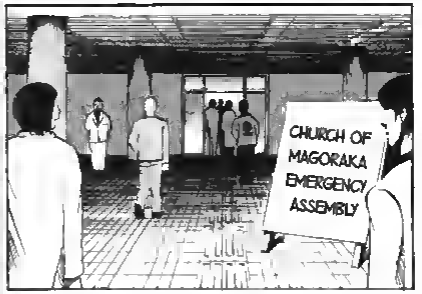
AND WE'VE GOT RELIABLE INFORMATION THAT SEVERAL YOUNG WOMEN INVOLVED WITH THE GROUP HAVE GONE MISSING.
IF I MAY BE FRANK, SUPERINTENDENT NAKAJIMA, I CAN'T CONSIDER ANY RELIGION THAT WORSHIPS AN UNDERAGE GIRL AND TAKES ADVANTAGE OF THE UNSOUND NATURE OF ITS MEMBERS TO BE "PEACEFUL."

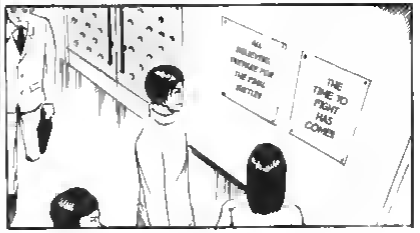
I GUESS THAT GIVES ME THE REST OF THE WEEK TO PULL OFF ONE HELL OF A BUST.
BRRRRM
NEXT MONDAY, WAS IT..?
SNIRK

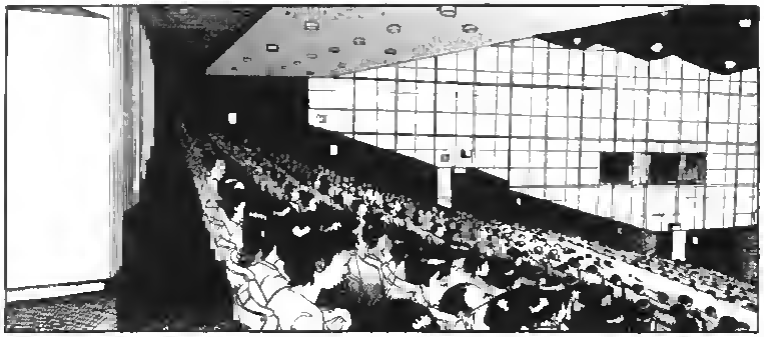
SO YOU WANT ME TO BACK OFF?
I'M SURE YOU UNDERSTAND THAT YOUR DILIGENCE TOWARD YOUR WORK IS HIGHLY REGARDED.
CHILD ABDUCTION IS NOT UNDER OUR JURISDICTION
CRACKING DOWN ON SMALLER CRIMES IS S-STILL AN IMPORTANT TASK TO YOUR COUNTRY.
STARTING NEXT MONDAY, YOU WILL BE TRANSFERRED TO SECTION THREE, WHERE YOU CAN SPEND SOME QUALITY TIME HUNTING DOWN BURGLARS.
.....






CHURCH OF MAGORAKA EMERGENCY ASSEMBLY

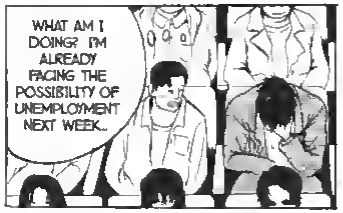

ALL BELIEVERS GATHER FOR THE FINAL BATTLE
THE TIME TO PRAY HAS COMEN



!!

.....

..THAT'S RIGHT FOLKS, IT'S AN INCREDIBLE UPSET!!


WHAT AM I DOING? I'M ALREADY FACING THE POSSIBILITY OF UNEMPLOYMENT NEXT WEEK..

OF MAGORAKA EMERGENCY ASSEMBLY

CHURCH OF MAGORAKA EMERGENCY ASSEMBLY
I'M AFRAID THIS EXTREME COURSE OF ACTION MAY DRAW IRE FROM OUR MEMBERS...
THE WU ASSASSINS WILL NOT FAIL US.
MR. KUSUMI, I DON'T SEE THE NEED FOR SUCH A GRANDIOSE MEETING.
...NEITHER YOU NOR TAMAYO UNDERSTAND A THING.
YOU DON'T KNOW THE HALF OF KAZUMA'S TERROR.

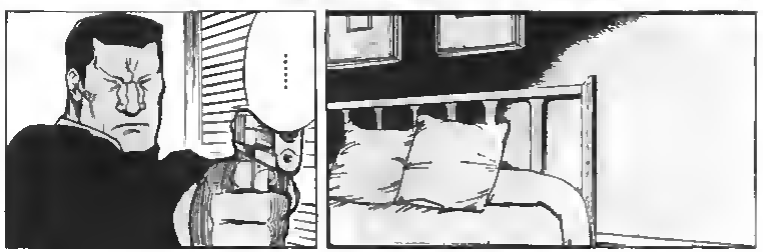
CLICK

SHFE..

DID YOU THINK I WOULD BE SLEEPING IN MY COFFIN DURING THE DAY?

?!!

BANG

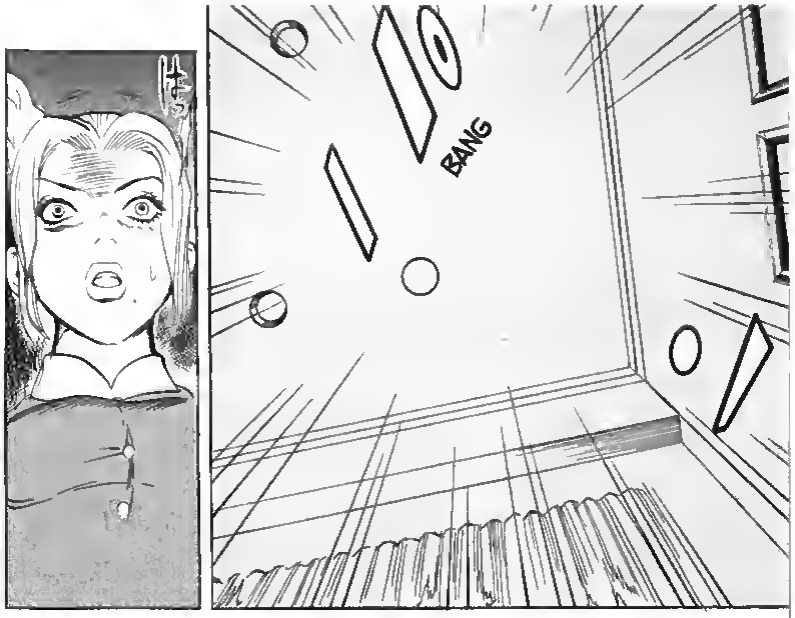

.....

NOT YET!
WE'VE FAILED! RETREAT!
DAMN!
AA-AAAAHHHH!!

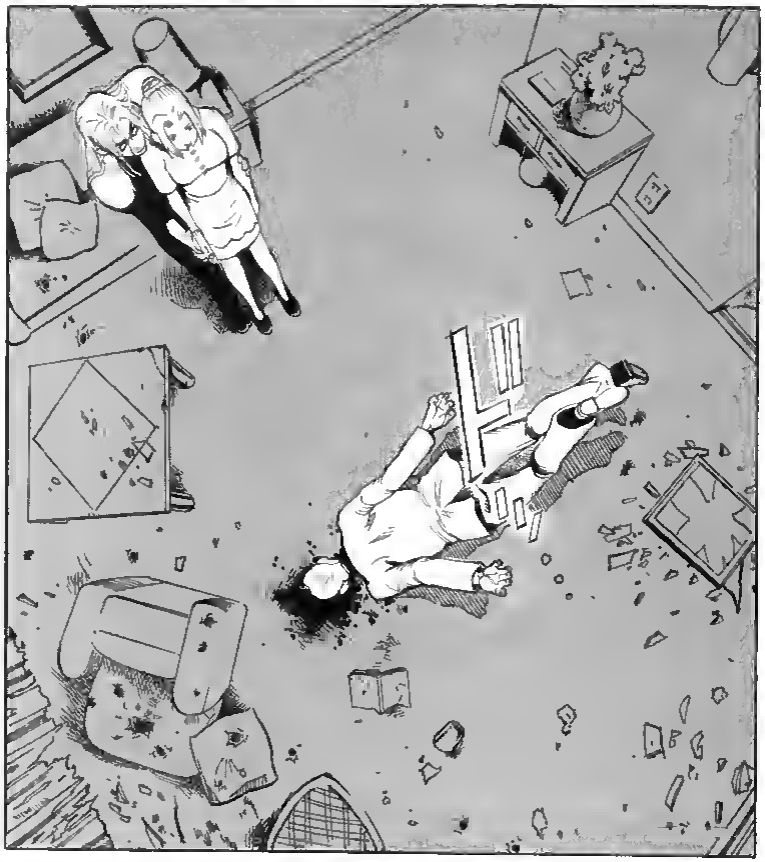
SHMM
!!
DIE!!

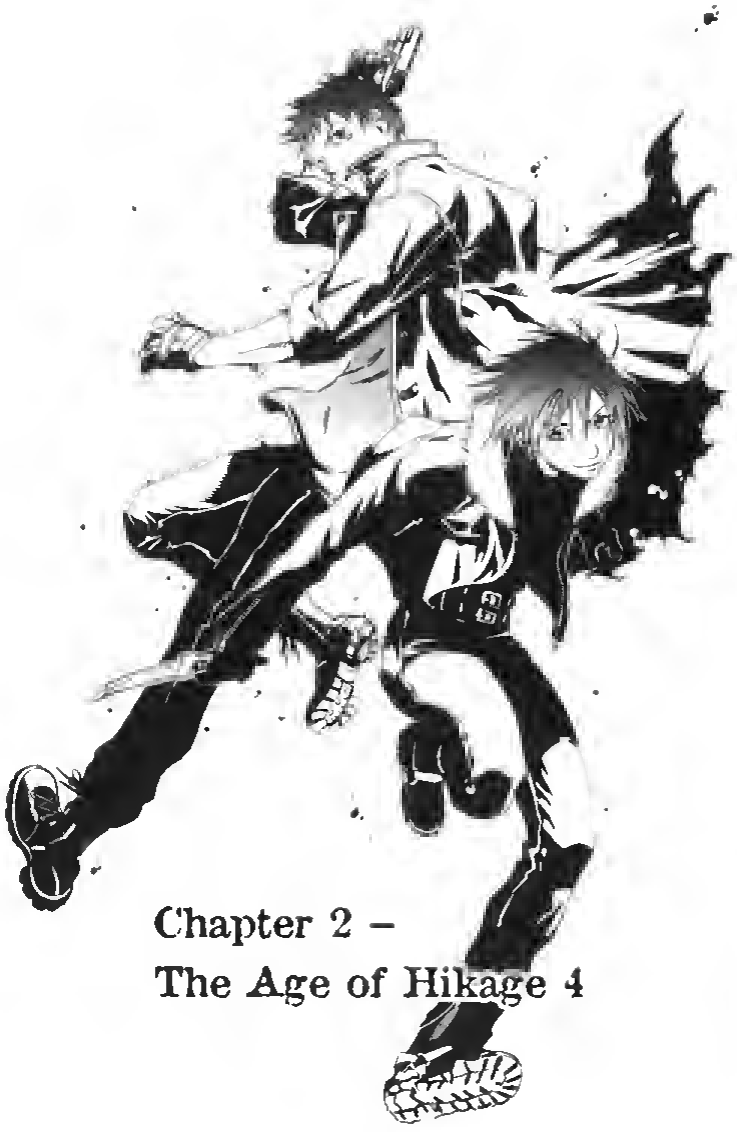
SHHH
……

AAA-
AAAHHH!!
……
!!

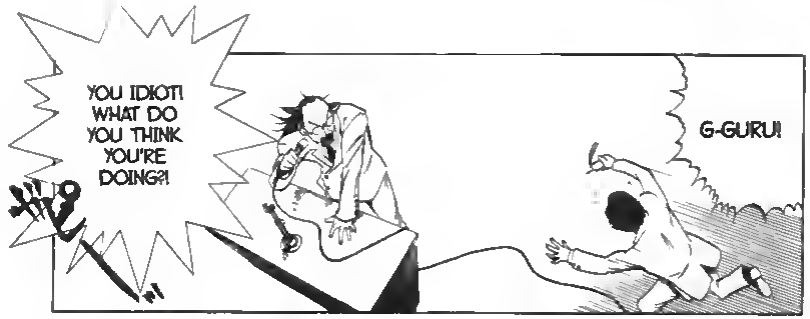

BANG

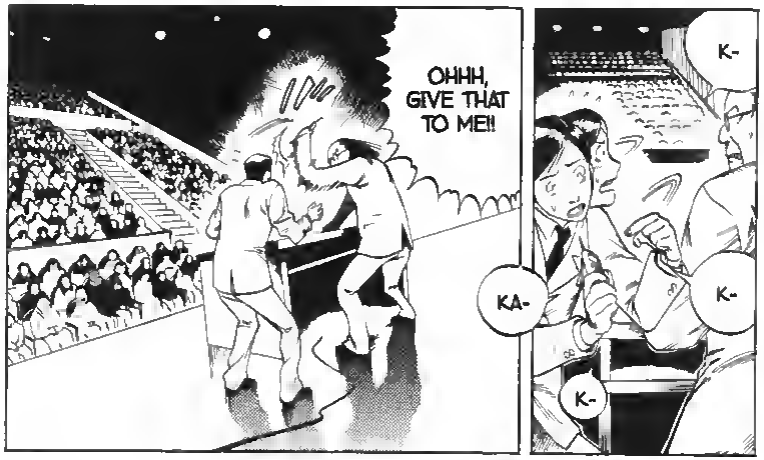
DRIP
NO SOUND

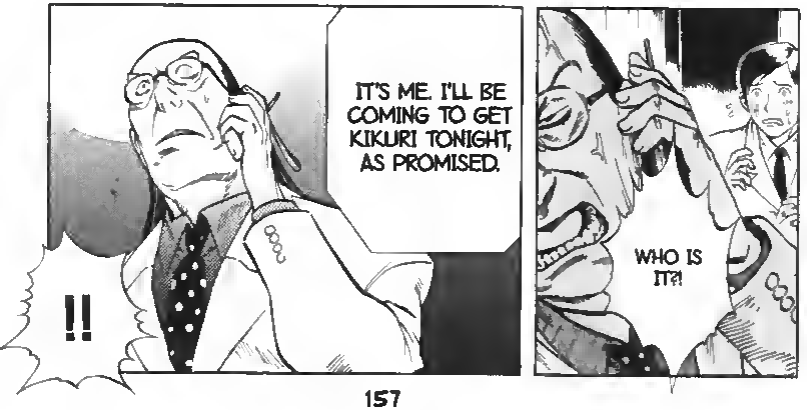


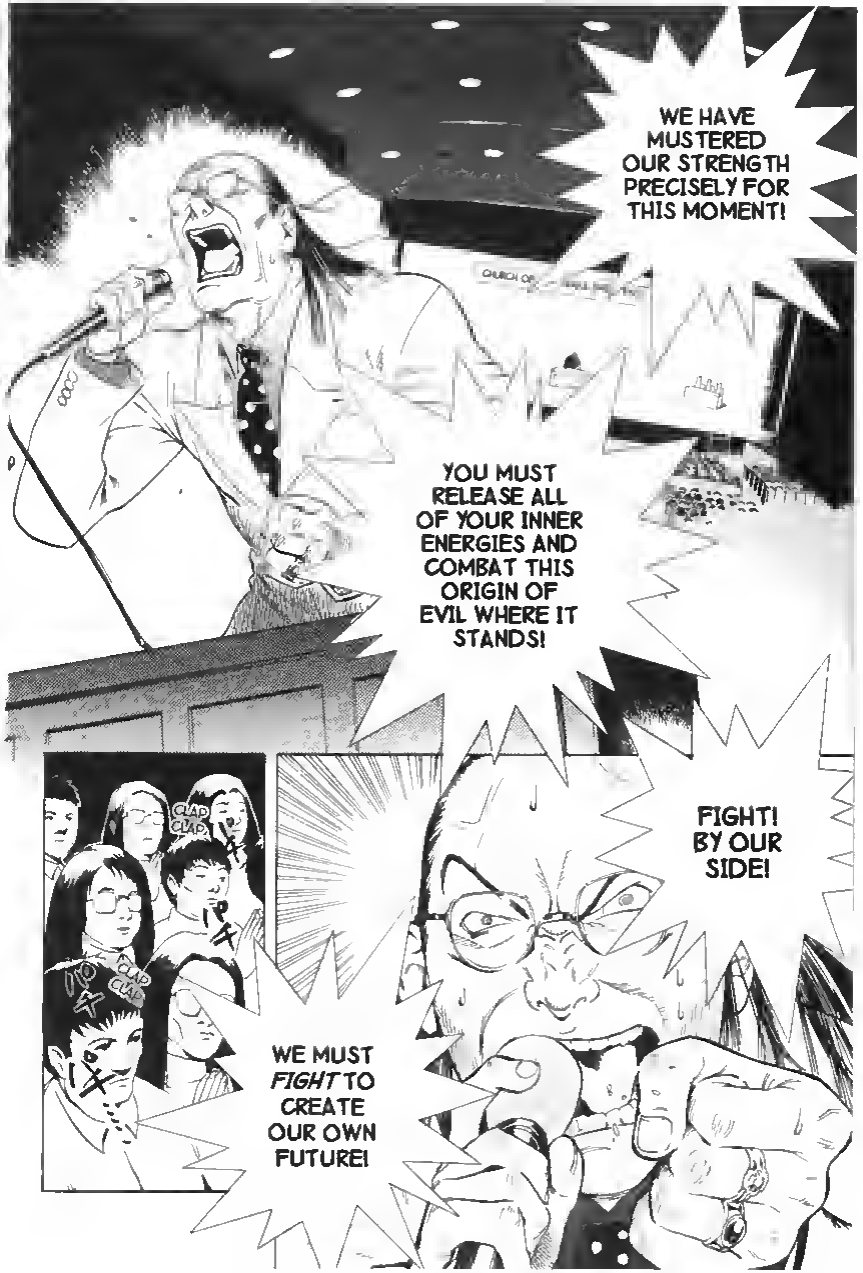


Chapter 2 –
The Age of Hikage 4


YOU IDIOT! WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING?!
G-GURU!


OHHH, GIVE THAT TO ME!!
K-
KA-
K-
K-


IT'S ME. I'LL BE COMING TO GET KIKURI TONIGHT, AS PROMISED.
!!
WHO IS IT?!


WE HAVE MUSTERED OUR STRENGTH PRECISELY FOR THIS MOMENT!
YOU MUST RELEASE ALL OF YOUR INNER ENERGIES AND COMBAT THIS ORIGIN OF EVIL WHERE IT STANDS!
CLAP CLAP
CLAP CLAP
FIGHT! BY OUR SIDE!
WE MUST *FIGHT* TO CREATE OUR OWN FUTURE!

I HAVEN'T SLEPT IN OVER TEN YEARS.
IT'S TRUE THAT I AM WEAK TO SUNLIGHT, BUT THAT'S NOT THE POINT.
ALL I HAVE TO DO IS REGENERATE MY SKIN FASTER THAN IT CAN BURN.
.....

THERE ARE NO [illegible] *BEINGS* IN THIS WORLD.
ONLY SPECIAL *ABILITIES*.

BEEP
FORGIVE HIROOHJI'S ROUGH TREATMENT, IF YOU WOULD BE SO KIND.

THE CHURCH HAS A REQUEST TO MAKE OF ALL OF YOU.
WE ARE CURRENTLY UNDER PRESSURE FROM HERETICS AND HATE-MONGERS WHO SEEK TO TAKE LADY KIKURI FROM US.
WE MUST FIGHT TO THE DEATH TO PROTECT HER.
ANY TRUE BELIEVERS WITH MILITARY OR MARTIAL ARTS EXPERIENCE WHO ARE AVAILABLE TO STAY AT THE TEMPLE IMMEDIATELY-
WE NEED YOU FOR LADY KIKURI'S BODYGUARD SQUAD!

HAMAMURA... YOU HANDLE THE REST.
.....

HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN OUR AGREEMENT?
……
BZZZT
BZZZT
BZZZT
BZZZT
BZZZT

AS IT HAPPENS, I TOOK SOME JUDO AND KENDO AT THE ACADEMY.
ざわ
ざわ
……
ガァァァ…

NO! NO PESSIMISM! WE'RE THE ONLY ONES WHO CAN KEEP HER SAFE!
WHY, I WOULD GLADLY GIVE MY LIFE IN SERVICE TO LADY KIKURI...
ONLY NINE...
CAN WE POSSIBLY PROTECT LADY KIKURI WITH THIS FEW?

BZZZZ
BZZZZ
BZZZZ
BNNNT

SISTER...

YEAH. I BET HIKAGE KNOWS WHAT IT'S LIKE TO FEEL ALIVE.

ゴアアア…
GRRRMMM...

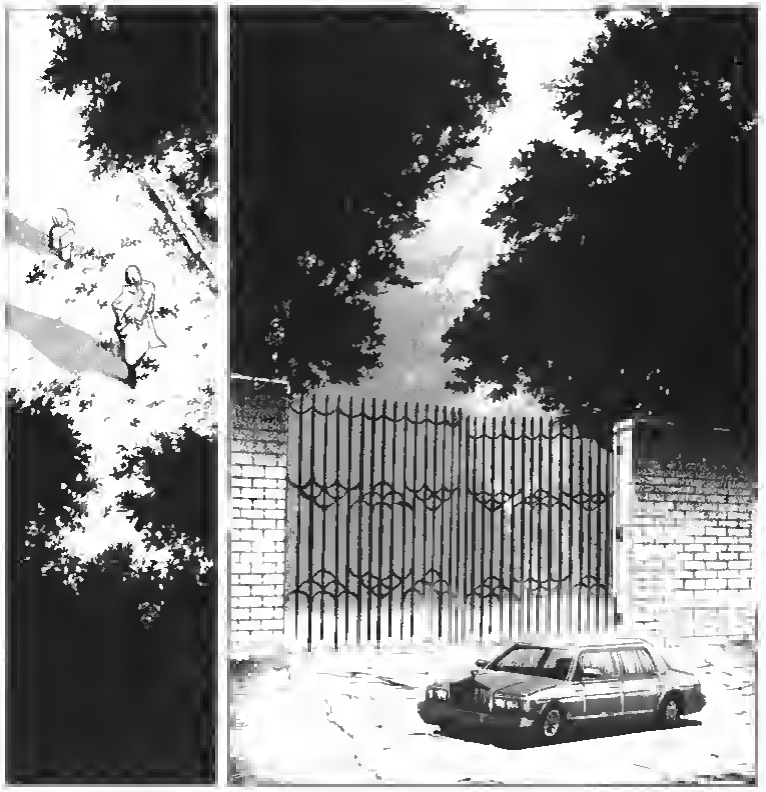
MR. YAEGASHI, IS IT?

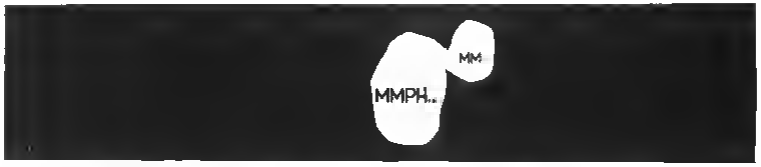
ZZZ-NG?

NOBODY KNOWS ABOUT THAT EXCEPT FOR THE HEAD OF MY BRANCH, AND THE GURU HIMSELF.
.....

I'M SADAO KUSAKARI, FROM THE CHURCH OF MAGORAKA'S SECURITY BRANCH.
IT'S MY JOB TO WATCH OUT FOR SPIES AMONG THE REGULAR BELIEVERS.

WHERE ARE WE?

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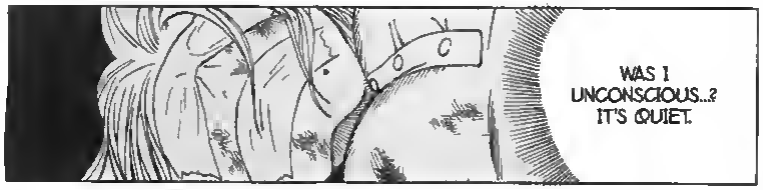
MMPH..


WAS I UNCONSCIOUS...? IT'S QUIET.

KAZUMA'S NOT HERE?
WHAT, ARE YOU STILL ALIVE? TALK ABOUT TOUGH.

DON'T GET ANY FUNNY IDEAS. JUST SIT BACK AND RELAX.

I SEE YOU ARE AS BARBAROUS AS EVER, KAZUMA.
.....

KURAHA DOESN'T SEEM TO BE HERE...

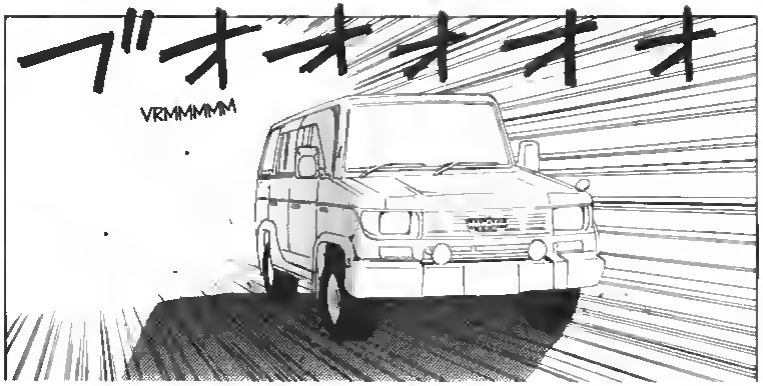
WE ARE THE TYPE WHOSE MINDS RULE OVER THE BODY.
LONGING FOR THE FLESH WE ONCE HELD WILL ONLY LEAD TO DESTRUCTION OF THE SELF

AND BLOOD IS NOTHING BUT A KEYWORD THAT SIGNIFIES FLESH.

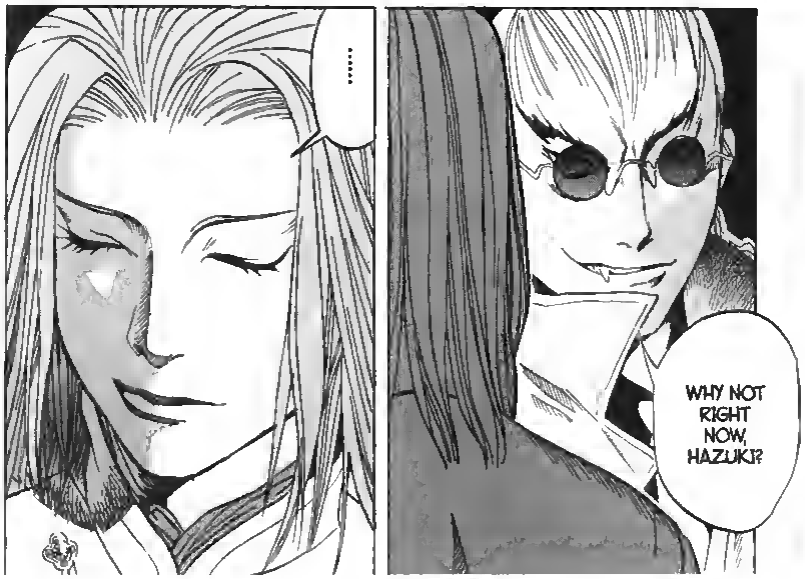
CAN YOU NOT KEEP YOURSELF FROM SUCKING BLOOD?

.....

HA HA HA. NEVERTHELESS, I HAVE SOMETHING YOU MIGHT LIKE TO SEE.
YOU WANT TO KNOW HOW TO INCREASE OUR NUMBERS, DON'T YOU?
IF KURAHA ISN'T HOME, I HAVE NO BUSINESS HERE.


ブオオオオオオ
VRMMMMM

THAT IS WHY I WAS AGAINST LETTING YOU JOIN US, WHEN KURAHA RECOMMENDED IT.
STOP WHAT YOU ARE DOING, IMMEDIATELY.
IF YOU DO NOT, I WILL TURN YOU INTO DUST.


.....
WHY NOT RIGHT NOW, HAZUKI?

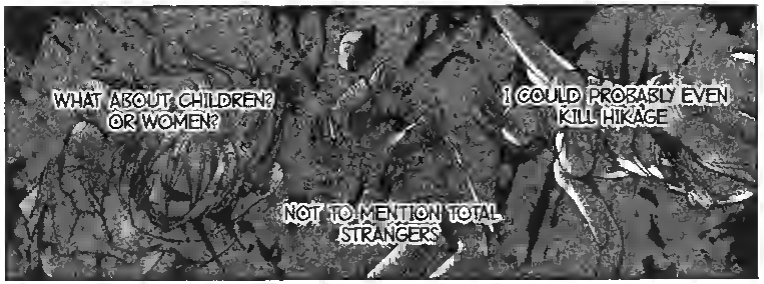
SISTER...

YEAH, I BET HIKAGE KNOWS WHAT IT'S LIKE TO FEEL ALIVE.

GRRRMMM...

.....

WHY DIDN'T THEY JUST USE US IN THE FIRST PLACE?!


WHAT ABOUT CHILDREN? OR WOMEN?
I COULD PROBABLY EVEN KILL HIKAGE
NOT TO MENTION TOTAL STRANGERS

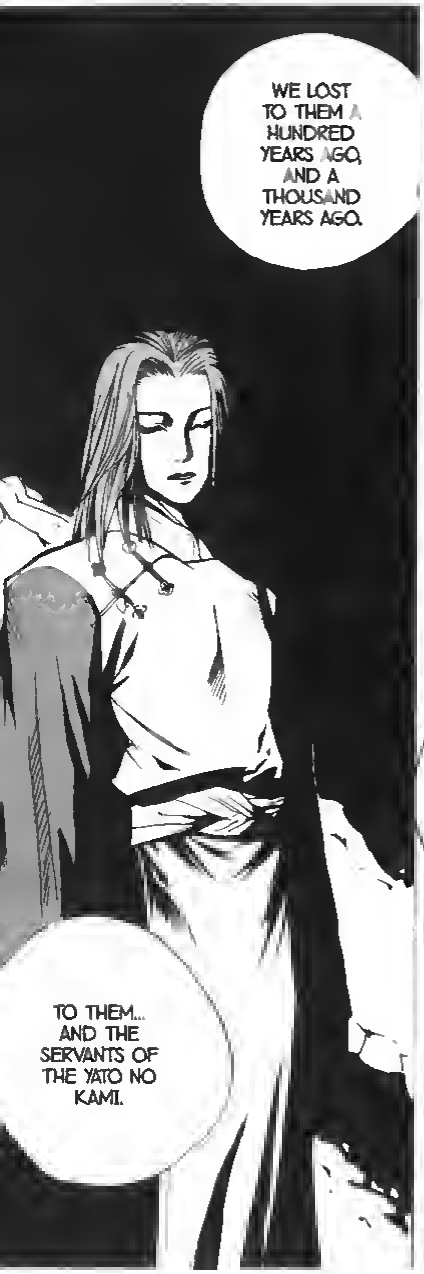
MAYBE I KILL, BECAUSE I DON'T FEEL ALIVE
WITHOUT ANY LIVING RELATIVES BY BLOOD, THERE'S NO WAY FOR ME TO PROVE MY EXISTENCE IN THIS WORLD.

CLACK
CLACK

CLACK

CLACK
CLACK

OOOOHHH
BEHOLD, KAZUMA, THE FATE OF THOSE HELD CAPTIVE BY LONGING FOR THE FLESH.
UNABLE TO SUCK BLOOD, THEIR OWN MINDS HAVE BROUGHT RUIN TO THEIR OWN BODIES.


WE LOST TO THEM A HUNDRED YEARS AGO, AND A THOUSAND YEARS AGO.
TO THEM... AND THE SERVANTS OF THE YATO NO KAMI.

AS OUR NUMBERS GROW, SO WILL THE AMOUNT OF WEAK SOULS WHO CANNOT OVERCOME THEIR OWN BODIES.
AND THE HUMANS WILL NOT SUFFER OUR PRESENCE ON THIS EARTH.

IF WE NEED BLOOD, LET US HAVE IT.
WE HAVE OVERWHELMING STRENGTH.
HUMANS ARE NOTHING BUT OUR LIVESTOCK.

.....

ザァァアアアッ
WHOOOSH

HAZUKI IS HELD JUST AS CAPTIVE BY WORDS AS THEY ARE.
AND THE SERVANTS OF THE YATO NO KAMI ARE NOTHING.
I WILL USE MY POWERS TO CHANGE THE WORLD AS I SEE FIT.
LEGEND OF ZIPANGU 2 - END

YUSUKE AND HIKAGE HEAD OUT TO FULFILL THEIR JOB... BUT ENTIRELY DIFFERENT FATES AWAIT EACH ONE!!
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